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(28 June to 23 July 2004)

Note: The provisional texts of the decisions adopted by the Council at its resumed organizational session for 2004 are circulated herein for information. The final texts will be issued in *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 1* (E/2004/99).

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Resolutions

2004/4
Review of Economic and Social Council agreed conclusions 1997/2 on mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its agreed conclusions 1997/2 on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system,[1] and its decision 2003/287 to undertake, during its coordination segment in 2004, a review and appraisal of the system-wide implementation of the agreed conclusions,

Recalling also its resolution 2001/41, in which the Council decided to establish a regular sub-item entitled "Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes of the United Nations system", as well as its resolutions 2002/23 and 2003/49,

Reaffirming that gender mainstreaming constitutes a major strategy for the full implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action[2] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,[3] as a complement to strategies for women's empowerment,

Underlining the catalytic role played by the Commission on the Status of Women, as well as the important role played by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, in promoting and monitoring gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system,

1. *Reaffirms* its agreed conclusions 1997/2[1] as a valid framework for promoting and monitoring the implementation of gender mainstreaming within the United Nations system;

2. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the review and appraisal of the system-wide implementation of Economic and Social Council agreed conclusions 1997/2 on mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes of the United Nations system;[4]

3. *Notes with appreciation* the progress made by the United Nations in mainstreaming gender perspectives into policies and programmes since 1997, including the ongoing activities of and efforts made by the entities of the United Nations system, both individually and through inter-agency cooperation;

4. *Recognizes* that mainstreaming a gender perspective into all aspects of the work of the United Nations is an ongoing process and that further concrete steps are required, as a matter of urgency, to ensure full implementation of the agreed conclusions 1997/2;

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[1] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/52/3/Rev.1), chap. IV, para. 4.

[2] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[3] General Assembly resolutions S-23/2 and S-23/3.

[4] E/2004/59.

5. *Recommends* that the General Assembly encourage its committees and other intergovernmental bodies to take further measures to integrate systematically gender perspectives into all areas of their work, including the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of major United Nations summits and conferences, and in particular the 2005 high-level event planned in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 58/291 of 6 May 2004;

6. *Reaffirms* its commitment to ensuring systematic attention to gender perspectives in all aspects of its work;

7. *Encourages* the governing bodies of United Nations agencies, funds and programmes to ensure that gender perspectives are integrated into all aspects of their monitoring functions in relation to policies and strategies, medium-term plans, multi-year funding frameworks and operational activities, including those relating to the implementation of the Millennium Declaration and the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields;

8. *Calls upon* its functional commissions to take further measures to incorporate recommendations on their areas of work provided by the Commission on the Status of Women and fully to integrate gender perspectives into their work, including through their annual or multi-year work programmes and in the integrated and coordinated follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits, and, to that end, requests its Bureau to further strengthen the regular dialogue with the bureaux of the functional commissions on the issue of gender mainstreaming;

9. *Requests* all entities of the United Nations system to enhance the effectiveness of gender specialist resources, gender focal points and gender theme groups, by establishing clear mandates; by ensuring adequate training, access to information and to adequate and stable resources; and by increasing the support and participation of senior staff;

10. *Encourages* the Commission on the Status of Women to continue its catalytic role in relation to United Nations entities and intergovernmental bodies and to provide further practical guidance on gender mainstreaming;

11. *Requests* all entities of the United Nations system, including funds and programmes, fully to incorporate gender perspectives in their programmes and operational activities and to ensure, within their mandates, systematic integration of reporting on their efforts in mainstreaming gender into existing evaluation and monitoring processes within the United Nations system, including those relating to the development goals contained in the Millennium Declaration;

12. *Recommends* that all entities of the United Nations system continue to promote cooperation, coordination, sharing of methodologies and good practices, including through the development of tools and effective processes for monitoring and evaluation within the United Nations, in the implementation of agreed conclusions 1997/2, in particular through the Inter-agency Network on Women and Gender Equality, and recommends further that all inter-agency mechanisms pay attention to gender perspectives in their work;

13. *Takes note* of work already undertaken to implement General Assembly resolution 58/144 of 22 December 2003, and urges continued efforts towards its full implementation;

14. *Also takes note* of work already undertaken to implement Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security, and urges continued efforts towards its full implementation;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all United Nations entities develop action plans with time lines for implementing the agreed conclusions 1997/2, which address the gap between policy and practice identified in the Secretary-General's report, with a view to strengthening commitment and accountability at the highest levels within the United Nations system as well as to establishing mechanisms to ensure accountability, systematic monitoring and reporting on progress in implementation;

16. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to review the implementation of the agreed conclusions 1997/2 within the framework of his annual reports to the Commission on the Status of Women, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly on the follow-up to and progress made in the implementation by United Nations entities and intergovernmental bodies of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, with a particular focus on bridging the gap between policies and practice on the basis of gender mainstreaming action plans;

17. *Decides* to undertake a further review and appraisal of the implementation of its agreed conclusions 1997/2 at a future session before 2010.

27th plenary meeting
7 July 2004

2004/5
Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[5] which set out priorities and goals to be reached by the international community by 2015,

Recalling also General Assembly resolutions 47/199 of 22 December 1992, 50/120 of 20 December 1995, 53/192 of 15 December 1998 and 56/201 of 21 December 2001 on the triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 58/291 of 6 May 2004, entitled "Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit and integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields",

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolutions 2002/29 of 25 July 2002 and 2003/3 of 11 July 2003,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United

[5] General Assembly resolution 55/2.

Nations system[6] and on the assessment of the value added of the joint meetings of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme,[7]

Noting the importance of ensuring that the 2004 triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system contributes to the review of progress made in the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration and the outcomes of other United Nations summits and conferences,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General, when finalizing his report on the triennial comprehensive policy review for submission to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, to take into account the views and comments of Member States on the issues relating to the operational activities for development discussed during the operational activities segment of the substantive session of 2004 of the Economic and Social Council and to make appropriate recommendations;

2. *Invites* the Secretary-General, in accordance with the coordination, guidance and oversight roles of the Council in the implementation by the United Nations system of the triennial policy review of operational activities, to make recommendations, when finalizing his report on the triennial comprehensive policy review, on the possible themes that could be discussed at the operational activities segment of the substantive sessions of the Council in 2005 and 2006, taking into account the necessary preparatory work for the following triennial policy review;

3. *Invites* the General Assembly to consider a concise and action-oriented resolution on the triennial comprehensive policy review, focusing on priority areas as determined by Member States.

33rd plenary meeting
12 July 2004

2004/6
Shanghai Declaration

The Economic and Social Council,

Endorses the Shanghai Declaration adopted by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at its sixtieth session, as set out in the annex.

Annex

Shanghai Declaration

I. General provisions

1. We, members and associate members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, on the occasion of the historic sixtieth session of the

[6] A/59/85-E/2004/68.
[7] E/2004/60.

Commission, express our deep appreciation to the Government and citizens of the People's Republic of China for hosting the present session in Shanghai, the birthplace of the Commission, and to the government and citizens of Shanghai municipality.

2. We reiterate our commitment to multilateralism and to addressing global issues through dialogue, consultation and cooperation.

3. We reaffirm that the United Nations has a central role in promoting international cooperation for development and in promoting policy coherence on global development issues, including in the context of globalization and interdependence.

4. We support further reform of the United Nations with a view to promoting its important role in peace and development and in establishing a cohesive and effective system for responding to global threats and challenges, as well as enhancing the effectiveness of the United Nations through increased coordination and cooperation between the various agencies and their programmes within the United Nations system.

5. We note the diversity in the levels of development of countries and areas of the Asian and Pacific region and the special needs of the least developed economies, landlocked and island developing economies, and economies in transition.

6. We emphasize the Commission's unique role as the most representative body for the Asian and Pacific region and its mandate as the main general economic and social development centre within the United Nations system for the Asian and Pacific region.

7. We reaffirm our determination to strengthen further the role, capacity and efficiency of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to respond more effectively to the needs of its members and associate members and to existing and new global challenges.

8. We welcome the achievements of the region in economic and social development, including progress made in achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, and the outcomes and final documents of major United Nations summits and international conferences.

9. We renew our commitment to enhancing subregional and regional cooperation and remain conscious of the need to further improve national capacities in order to promote sustainable development in the Asian and Pacific region.

10. In this context, we acknowledge the importance of the main theme of the Shanghai session, "Meeting the challenges in an era of globalization by strengthening regional development cooperation".

11. We reaffirm that South-South cooperation, South-North cooperation and triangular cooperation play important roles in promoting development and contribute to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration.

12. We note that globalization offers opportunities and challenges to the world, particularly for the developing countries, and that it is only through greater

economic growth coupled with broad, sustained and collaborative efforts that globalization can be made fully inclusive and equitable so that the poor are not left behind. At the same time, the benefits of globalization can be realized only when environmental pressure from the impact of globalization is properly addressed through strengthened common strategies in the Asian and Pacific region.

13. We welcome the conclusion and holding of the signing ceremony of the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Asian Highway Network and the inaugural session of the Asia-Pacific Business Forum, and look forward to the first meeting of the Ministerial Council of the Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement as part of the efforts to strengthen the development of infrastructure and foster closer trade relations within the region. We reaffirm the importance of focusing the work of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific on its three thematic areas: poverty reduction, managing globalization and addressing emerging social issues.

II. Poverty reduction

14. In the area of poverty reduction, we will strive:

(a) To maximize the contribution of economic growth in reducing poverty and hunger, by consolidating successes and facilitating the sharing of best practices, with a view to halving, by 2015, the proportion of people suffering from poverty and hunger, thus making the region a forerunner in the global campaign against poverty;

(b) To implement policies aimed at engendering confidence in the operation of markets to assist in the creation of a favourable business environment;

(c) To emphasize the importance of according priority to the fight against hunger and poverty and, in this context, put in place the necessary policy and institutional framework and implement programmes that are designed to overcome hunger and poverty;

(d) To encourage the efficient utilization of existing financial, physical and human resources and the involvement of all stakeholders, including Governments, international organizations, international and regional development and financial institutions, donors and civil society, to achieve the internationally agreed sustainable development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration;[8]

(e) To eliminate corruption at all levels, in that regard welcoming the adoption of the United Nations Convention against Corruption[9] and inviting all member States to sign and ratify it as soon as possible in order to ensure its rapid entry into force.

III. Managing globalization

15. In the area of managing globalization, we will strive:

[8] General Assembly resolution 55/2.

[9] General Assembly resolution 58/4, annex.

(a) To address the regional and interregional aspects of the follow-up to the Monterrey Consensus[10] of the International Conference on Financing for Development;

(b) To revitalize the multilateral trading system, taking into account the importance of promoting the objectives set out in the Millennium Declaration of ensuring an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading system;

(c) To work towards a successful, timely and development-oriented conclusion of the Doha negotiations;

(d) To take action to enable those countries in the region that are not yet members of the World Trade Organization to accede to it in order to participate more effectively in the multilateral trading system;

(e) To strengthen national capacities to negotiate, conclude and implement multilateral and regional agreements designed to promote interregional and intraregional trade and investment flows;

(f) To implement, in a timely fashion, the various regional and subregional economic cooperation initiatives in promoting trade and investment, with a view to expanding economic interaction and promoting stable growth and prosperity for the entire region;

(g) To mobilize investment from domestic and foreign resources by strengthening and developing domestic financial systems and creating an enabling environment;

(h) To advance current efforts to reform the international financial architecture as envisaged in the Monterrey Consensus and promote the effective participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in those efforts;

(i) To take action at the regional level to ensure the effective implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, including the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,[11] in which some of the salient features of the Phnom Penh Regional Platform on Sustainable Development for Asia and the Pacific[12] were reflected, to move the region towards a more sustainable path to development, with the developed countries taking the lead and with all countries benefiting from the process, taking into account the principles of common but differentiated responsibilities, while taking note of the recent follow-up activities, including the Kyoto Ministerial Declaration[13] and the Jeju Initiative;[14]

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[10] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.62.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[11] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[12] E/CN.17/2002/PC.2/8.

[13] Ministerial Declaration of the Ministerial Conference of the Third World Water Forum, held at Kyoto, Japan on 22 and 23 March 2003.

[14] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/59/25), annex II.

(j) To make the next ten years a decade of economic growth and sustainable development in the region, striving to meet the various internationally agreed goals;

(k) To undertake regular studies and analyses of regional environmental trends, strengthen national capacities for protecting the environment consistent with national commitments and support regional and subregional environmental cooperation;

(l) To assist in capacity-building and the formulation and implementation of strategies and action plans for the sustainable use of water resources, with a special focus on problems of water quality and access to safe drinking water for the poor;

(m) To promote capacity-building in sustainable energy development, enhanced utilization of renewable energy and energy efficiency improvement and to support subregional cooperation in energy sector development;

(n) To develop an integrated intermodal transport network in Asia and the Pacific as well as Asia-Europe transport corridors;

(o) To implement the Plan of Action[15] adopted at the first phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Geneva in December 2003, and take action to achieve the objectives of the World Summit as enunciated in the Declaration of Principles[16] and Plan of Action adopted at the first phase, and to prepare for the second phase in 2005, paying special attention to least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and countries with economies in transition;

(p) To promote regional cooperation and effective integration of satellite-based information and communication technology applications with other information technologies for informed sustainable economic and social development planning and management and improved quality of life;

(q) To promote the development of transport and tourism in the region so as to provide opportunities for increased national, regional and international trade and better access to health and education services, and to promote cultural exchanges.

IV. Emerging social issues

16. In the area of emerging social issues, we will strive:

(a) To promote social policy development and the mainstreaming of social dimensions in national development programmes;

(b) To improve the development and delivery of basic social services, such as education, health and nutrition, focusing on vulnerable population groups;

(c) To enhance cooperation in capacity-building in public health, inter alia through the exchange of information and the sharing of experience, as well as research and training programmes focusing on surveillance, prevention, control, response, care and treatment in respect of infectious diseases;

[15] WSIS-03/GENEVA/DOC/5-E.
[16] WSIS-03/GENEVA/DOC/4-E.

(d) To coordinate a more effective and comprehensive response to HIV/AIDS and other serious diseases in the region by prioritizing effective strategies against them in national development planning, committing sufficient resources, mobilizing the private sector and civil society, enhancing sustained and comprehensive intervention and strengthening regional cooperation in establishing preventive measures and increasing the availability of affordable quality drugs;

(e) To foster an integrated social safety net and, particularly, to establish a social safety net which provides necessary assistance to the unemployed, the poor and senior citizens, as well as other vulnerable groups;

(f) To promote and support gender equality and eliminate discrimination against women;

(g) To promote human security in the region through greater regional cooperation, especially for vulnerable people;

(h) To support and encourage the active participation of all relevant stakeholders, including the business community, for the promotion of social development.

V. Overarching issues

17. On overarching issues, we will strive:

(a) To fully implement the Monterrey Consensus;[10]

(b) To promote regional cooperation by inviting the United Nations regional commissions, in collaboration with other regional and subregional organizations and processes, as appropriate, to contribute, within their mandates, to the review of progress made towards achieving the internationally agreed development goals contained in the Millennium Declaration, which synthesizes and prioritizes the key elements of major international conferences held in prior years, and to provide input to the discussions of the Economic and Social Council on the cross-sectoral thematic issues to be addressed during the coordination segment of its substantive session, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Council;

(c) To intensify our efforts to implement effectively in the Asian and Pacific region the International Plan of Action for the United Nations Literacy Decade;[17]

(d) To implement the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010[18] and the Almaty Plan of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries;[19]

(e) To promote initiatives for the least developed countries in the context of South-South cooperation by implementing projects that address the special needs of those countries;

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[17] See A/57/218 and Corr.1.

[18] A/CONF.191/13, chap. II.

[19] A/CONF.202/3, annex I.

(f) To support the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[20] and work towards a positive outcome at the review of the implementation of the Programme of Action in Mauritius;

(g) To strengthen and support the implementation of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia;

(h) To encourage the establishment of a regional network of research institutions and universities in the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific region by 2006 in order to promote education, technical skills development and technology transfer through the exchange of programmes, students and academics.

VI. Strengthening of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

18. We reaffirm the vital role of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in fostering sustainable economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific.

19. We request the Executive Secretary to design programmes, within the existing mandate and resources of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, that reflect the overall vision contained in this Declaration, to present the programme of work for endorsement by the Commission and to report on these matters to the Commission at future sessions.

20. We resolve, therefore, to support efforts by the Executive Secretary to mobilize and make effective use of additional financial and in-kind resources in support of activities of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and for its further revitalization in line with the needs and priorities of its members and associate members.

21. We also request the Commission to review on a regular basis the progress made in implementing the provisions of the present Declaration.

42nd plenary meeting
16 July 2004

2004/7
Work of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in implementing its technical cooperation projects

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 37 (IV) of 28 March 1947, by which the Council established the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, and in particular paragraphs 1 (d) and (e) of that resolution, regarding advisory services and technical assistance,

[20] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 May-6 April 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

Also recalling General Assembly resolution 32/197 of 20 December 1977, through which the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific was mandated to serve as the main general economic and social development centre within the United Nations system for the Asian and Pacific region and as an executing agency for intersectoral, subregional, regional and interregional projects,

Cognizant of the scope of the responsibilities of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the domain of which comprises the largest region in the world in geographical coverage and contains sixty-two per cent of the world's population, as well as the majority of the world's poor,

Aware of the focus of the work of the Commission on three key thematic areas, namely, poverty reduction, managing globalization and addressing emerging social issues,

1. *Recognizes* with appreciation that the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific has been implementing a number of technical cooperation projects that strengthen the capacity of Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific members and associate members in the development and implementation of policies and programmes in economic and social fields;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those traditional donors which have made significant voluntary contributions to the technical cooperation activities of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and invites non-traditional donors to increase their contributions;

3. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Executive Secretary to focus on high-priority, results-oriented and demand-based projects and requests him to implement such projects in an effective and efficient manner;

4. *Recognizes* the need for the technical cooperation activities of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to be guided by the internationally agreed development goals contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, and the outcomes of United Nations summits and conferences, including the Doha agenda,[21] the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,[22] the Monterrey Consensus,[23] the Almaty Programme of Action[24] and the Plan of Action of the World Summit on the Information Society;[25]

5. *Also recognizes* that the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific has comparative strengths and advantages in certain technical cooperation activities in the Asian and Pacific region and requests the Executive Secretary, in carrying out its technical cooperation activities, to continue to attach high priority to the following areas:

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[21] Adopted at the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held at Doha from 9 to 14 November 2001. See A/C.2/56/7, annex.

[22] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publications, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[23] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.62.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[24] A/CONF.202/3, annex I.

[25] WSIS-03/GENEVA/DOC/5-E.

(a) Capacity-building for members and associate members to plan and implement effective policies and programmes in economic and social fields through training activities, such as organizing seminars, workshops and the exchange of experts;

(b) Provision of advisory services, at the request of members or associate members, to strengthen their capacity to respond effectively to the challenges of globalization in the region;

(c) Identification of existing good practices in the region and promotion of their introduction in places where feasibility studies yield positive results;

(d) Enhancement of awareness among members and associate members and facilitation of the dissemination of relevant information;

6. *Urges* the Executive Secretary to implement the projects in close cooperation with the participating Governments and relevant international organizations and bodies, as well as in partnership with the private sector and relevant non-governmental organizations;

7. *Also urges* the Executive Secretary to pay particular attention to the special needs of socially vulnerable groups and to the gender dimension when implementing projects;

8. *Further urges* the Executive Secretary to pay particular attention to the special needs of least developed countries, landlocked and Pacific island developing countries, and economies in transition when implementing projects;

9. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Executive Secretary for actively monitoring and evaluating its projects and urges him to continue to do so in order to determine the effectiveness of those projects and to draw lessons therefrom for improved planning and implementation of future projects of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific;

10. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to include the following in his report to the Commission at its sixty-first session under the agenda item entitled "Technical cooperation activities of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and announcement of intended contributions":

(a) His efforts to mobilize resources in areas such as broadening the donor base, cost-sharing, private sector funding and other innovative means in view of the trend towards declining voluntary contributions for technical cooperation activities;

(b) His strategy paper and action plan for technical cooperation activities for the year 2005 and thereafter, taking into account the priorities of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and recognizing that the implementation of projects is subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources;

(c) The results of the monitoring and evaluation of ongoing and recently completed projects for the purposes mentioned in paragraph 9 above.

42nd plenary meeting
16 July 2004

2004/8
Intergovernmental Agreement on the Asian Highway Network

The Economic and Social Council,

Recognizing the importance of international road transport to the development of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific region's economy, trade and tourism,

Recognizing also that an intergovernmental agreement on the Asian Highway network would play a catalytic role in the coordinated development of international highways in the region and between Asia and Europe,

Recalling the establishment of a working group to develop an intergovernmental agreement on the Asian Highway network, as recommended by the Ministerial Conference on Infrastructure, held in Seoul on 16 and 17 November 2001, and endorsed by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at its fifty-eighth session,

Recalling also the decision of the Commission at its fifty-ninth session to convene an ad hoc intergovernmental meeting to consider and adopt the agreement in the second half of 2003 and its hope that the agreement could be concluded at the meeting in November 2003,

Welcoming the unanimous adoption of the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Asian Highway Network by the Intergovernmental Meeting to Develop an Intergovernmental Agreement on the Asian Highway Network, held in Bangkok on 17 and 18 November 2003,

Recalling the priority area of infrastructure development and maintenance identified in the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries,[26] adopted at the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, held in Almaty on 28 and 29 August 2003, and acknowledging that the Asian Highway network provides transit transport opportunities,

Expressing its appreciation to the Government of Japan for its valuable support for the development and formalization of the Asian Highway network and for the assistance which it provided in preparing for and convening the Intergovernmental Meeting,

Expressing its appreciation also to the Government of China for hosting the signing ceremony for the Agreement in Shanghai on 26 April 2004,

Convinced that the Agreement will strengthen relations between member countries, promote international trade and tourism through coordinated development of the Asian Highway network and have a substantial positive impact on the region by achieving internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000,

[26] A/CONF.202/3, annex. I.

1. *Invites* all the relevant members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to become parties to the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Asian Highway Network in order to ensure the speedy entry into force of the Agreement;

2. *Also invites* the international and regional financing institutions and multilateral and bilateral donors to provide financial and technical support for the development of the Asian Highway network and related infrastructure, particularly taking into account the special needs of landlocked developing countries;

3. *Further invites* subregional organizations to promote the Agreement and accord priority to the development of the Asian Highway network in their respective subregions;

4. *Encourages* landlocked developing countries and their transit neighbours that are members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to enter into bilateral or subregional transit traffic facilitation agreements which will enable the Asian Highway network to provide further tangible transit transport opportunities within the scope of the Almaty Programme of Action;[26]

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To assist member countries in becoming parties to the Agreement;

(b) To accord priority to the development of the Asian Highway network, within the work programme of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific;

(c) To collaborate effectively with international and regional financing institutions, multilateral and bilateral donors and subregional organizations for the development of the Asian Highway network;

(d) To discharge effectively the functions of the secretariat of the Agreement;

(e) To report to the Commission at its sixty-first session on the implementation of the present resolution.

42nd plenary meeting
16 July 2004

2004/9
Genetic privacy and non-discrimination

The Economic and Social Council,

Guided by the purposes and principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and also by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[27] the International Covenants on Human Rights[28] and the other relevant international human rights instruments,

[27] General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).
[28] General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Recalling the Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights, adopted on 11 November 1997 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[29] and General Assembly resolution 53/152 of 9 December 1998 endorsing the Declaration,

Recalling also the Programme of Action of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, adopted in Durban, South Africa, on 8 September 2001,[30]

Welcoming the International Declaration on Human Genetic Data adopted on 16 October 2003 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which, inter alia, considers discrimination based on genetic characteristics as acts intended to infringe, or to have the effect of infringing human rights, fundamental freedoms or human dignity of an individual or for purposes that lead to stigmatization of an individual, a family or a group or communities,

Recalling its resolution 2001/39 of 26 July 2001, as well as its decision 2003/232 of 22 July 2002,

Recalling also Commission on Human Rights resolution 2003/69 of 25 April 2003 on human rights and bioethics,[31]

Recalling further the decision taken on 7 May 1998 whereby the Executive Board of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization established the International Bioethics Committee, which is carrying out work on confidentiality and genetic data,

Reiterating that the life and health of individuals are inevitably related to developments in life sciences and social areas,

Acknowledging the importance of advances in genetic research, which have led to the identification of strategies for the early detection, prevention and treatment of diseases,

Bearing in mind that the genetic revolution has far-reaching implications and consequences for all humankind and that its evaluation and applications should therefore be conducted in an open, ethical and participatory manner,

Recognizing the contribution that civil society involved in this matter can make to the protection of genetic privacy and to the fight against discrimination based on genetic information,

Reaffirming that the information obtained from genetic tests, which is personal, should be held confidential, based on the conditions set by law,

Recognizing that genetic data associated with an identifiable person can in some instances be relevant to other members of the individual's family or to other persons and that the rights and interests of such persons must also be taken into account in the handling of such data,

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[29] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Twenty-ninth Session*, vol. I, *resolutions*, resolution 16.

[30] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

[31] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 3* (E/2003/23), chap. II, sect. A.

Stressing the fact that revealing genetic information belonging to individuals without their consent may cause harm and discrimination against them in such areas as employment, insurance, education and other areas of social life,

Recalling that, in order to protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, the limitations to the principles of consent and confidentiality may be prescribed only by law, for compelling reasons consistent with international law, including international human rights law,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on information and comments received from Governments and relevant international organizations and functional commissions pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/39;[32]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Governments, relevant international organizations and functional commissions that have responded to the request for information formulated by the Council in its resolution 2001/39;

3. *Urges* States to ensure that no one shall be subjected to discrimination based on genetic information;

4. *Also urges* States to protect the privacy of those subject to genetic testing and to ensure that genetic testing and the subsequent processing, use and storage of human genetic data is done with the prior, free, informed and express consent of the individual or authorization obtained in the manner prescribed by law consistent with international law, including international human rights law, and to ensure that limitations on the principle of consent are prescribed only for compelling reasons, such as forensic medicine and related legal proceedings, by domestic law consistent with international law, including international human rights law;

5. *Calls upon* States to take appropriate specific measures, including through legislation, to prevent the misuse of genetic information leading to discrimination against, or stigmatization of, individuals, members of their families or groups in all areas, particularly in insurance, employment, education and other areas of social life, whether in the public or the private sector, and in this respect calls upon States to take all appropriate measures to ensure that the results and interpretations of population-based genetic studies are not used for purposes that discriminate against the individual or group concerned;

6. *Also calls upon* States to promote, as appropriate, the development and implementation of standards providing appropriate protection with regard to the collection, storage, disclosure and use of genetic information taken from genetic tests that might lead to discrimination, stigmatization or invasion of privacy;

7. *Urges* States to continue to support research in the area of human genetics, subject to accepted scientific and ethical standards and to the potential benefit of all people, emphasizing that such research and its applications should fully respect human rights, fundamental freedoms and human dignity, as well as the prohibition of all forms of discrimination based on genetic characteristics;

8. *Recognizes*, in this context, that international efforts to ensure non-discrimination on genetic grounds need to be pursued and that, in the context of international cooperation, States should endeavour to assist developing countries to

[32] E/2003/91 and Add.1 and E/2004/56.

build their capacity to participate in generating and sharing scientific knowledge concerning human genetic data and the related know-how, with full respect for all human rights;

9. *Decides* to continue considering the various implications of the question of genetic privacy and non-discrimination for ethical, legal, medical, employment, insurance-related and other aspects of social life, consistent with public international law and international human rights law;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Governments, relevant international organizations and functional commissions, to collect the comments received pursuant to it, and other relevant information, and to submit a report to the Council at its substantive session of 2007.

46th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/10
Situation of women and girls in Afghanistan

The Economic and Social Council,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[33] the International Covenants on Human Rights,[34] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[35] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[36] the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[37] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[38] and the Optional Protocols thereto on the involvement of children in armed conflict[39] and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[40] the Beijing Declaration[41] and Platform for Action,[42] the further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-third special session,[43] accepted humanitarian rules as set out in the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, [44] and other instruments of human rights and international law,

Recalling that Afghanistan is a party to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide,[45] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[34] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural

[33] General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).
[34] General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.
[35] General Assembly resolution 39/46, annex.
[36] General Assembly resolution 34/180, annex.
[37] See General Assembly resolution 48/104.
[38] General Assembly resolution 44/25, annex.
[39] General Assembly resolution 54/263, annex I.
[40] Ibid., annex II.
[41] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.
[42] Ibid., annex II.
[43] General Assembly resolution S-23/3, annex.
[44] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.
[45] General Assembly resolution 260 A (III), annex.

Rights,[34] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[35] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[36] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[38] and the Optional Protocols thereto,[46] the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[44] and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[47]

Reaffirming that all States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recalling the importance of the implementation of Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000, on women and peace and security, and 1460 (2003) of 30 January 2003, on children and armed conflict, and in this context recalling also the Security Council mission to Afghanistan from 30 October to 8 November 2003, which reviewed, inter alia, the humanitarian and human rights situation of women,

Welcoming the entry into force on 26 January 2004 of a new Constitution following the successful outcome of the Constitutional Loya Jirga, in which women played a prominent and crucial role, and also welcoming, in particular, the provisions of the new Constitution which state that the citizens of Afghanistan, whether men or women, are equal before the law, and guarantee the right of women to serve in the National Assembly,

Welcoming also the continuing commitment of the Afghan Transitional Administration to the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by women and girls, the restoration of the active participation of Afghan women in political, economic and social life, the education of girls as well as boys and the opportunity for women to work outside the home,

Welcoming further the fact that the Back-to-School campaign launched by the Ministry of Education and the United Nations Children's Fund has been a major success and that 4.2 million children are now enrolled in school, while recognizing the need for the enrolment rate of girls in school to improve considerably,

Welcoming the inclusion of women in the Transitional Administration, the Judicial Reform Commission, the Independent Human Rights Commission, the Constitutional Commission and the Secretariat of the Constitutional Loya Jirga, and stressing the importance of the full and effective participation of women in all decision-making processes regarding the future of Afghanistan,

Welcoming also the fact that the National Development Framework of the Transitional Administration reflects the needs of, and the importance of the role to be taken by, women and girls in the process of peace-building, reconstruction and development, and welcoming in this regard the assistance provided by the international community to achieve these goals,

Welcoming further the efforts of Afghanistan's neighbouring countries, which host millions of Afghan refugees, especially women and children, and have provided humanitarian assistance in many areas, such as education, health and other basic services,

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[46] General Assembly resolution 54/263, annexes I and II.
[47] A/CONF.183/9.

Recognizing that, in spite of recent improvements, women in Afghanistan continue to face serious violations of their rights in many parts of the country, in particular in rural areas,

Recognizing also that Afghan women are primary stakeholders and agents of change, who must have the opportunity to identify their own needs, interests and priorities in all sectors of society as full partners in the rebuilding of their society,

Strongly emphasizing that a safe environment, free from violence, discrimination and abuse, for all Afghans, is essential for a viable and sustainable recovery and reconstruction process,

1. *Welcomes*:

(a) The ongoing commitments made by the Afghan Transitional Administration to recognize, protect and promote all human rights and fundamental freedoms and to respect and promote respect for international humanitarian law;

(b) The provisions of the new Constitution which state that the citizens of Afghanistan, whether men or women, are equal before the law and that at least two women are to be elected to the Wolesi Jirga (Lower House of Parliament) from each province, as a national average, and which provide for half of the President's nominees to the Meshrano Jirga (Upper House of Parliament) to be women;

(c) The ongoing security sector reform processes being undertaken by the Afghan Transitional Administration with the support of the international community, including the demobilization, disarmament and reintegration of former combatants and the recruitment of a new cadre of women police;

2. *Also welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General to the Commission on the Status of Women on the situation of women and girls in Afghanistan;[48]

3. *Urges* the Afghan Transitional Administration and future Government:

(a) To ensure that the provisions of the new Constitution are implemented fully and that any legislative, administrative and other measures support the full enjoyment by women and girls of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including by mainstreaming gender issues into the activities of all Afghan Transitional Administration ministries;

(b) To enable the full, equal and effective participation of women and girls in civil, cultural, economic, political and social life throughout the country at all levels;

(c) To protect the right to freedom of movement, expression and association for women and girls;

(d) To implement fully its obligations under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[36] and prepare the initial report due in March 2004 and to raise awareness and strengthen the knowledge of women and girls and their families about their rights, including the full enjoyment of all human rights by women and girls;

(e) To ensure that the electoral processes, including those in 2004, are carried out and monitored closely to make certain that women are able to register

[48] E/CN.6/2004/5.

and participate fully, and to support special measures that would guarantee that they are represented in local, provincial and national government positions;

(f) To ensure that the Ministry of Women's Affairs, the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission and the permanent Afghan judicial institutions have adequate human and financial resources to fulfil their mandates and address gender perspectives in line with international standards;

(g) To continue its efforts to re-establish the rule of law, in accordance with international standards, inter alia by ensuring that law enforcement agencies respect and uphold human rights and fundamental freedoms, with a particular emphasis on access to justice for women;

(h) To continue its efforts to reflect a gender perspective in the training and activities of its police, army, prosecutors and judiciary and to promote the recruitment of Afghan women in all ranks;

(i) To review and improve the practices of law enforcement personnel when dealing with women victims of violence, including domestic and sexual violence, and trafficking, in particular those accused of offences based on tradition or imprisoned for social reasons;

(j) To strengthen efforts, including through legislative measures, to prevent and eliminate violence against women, including domestic and sexual violence and trafficking, inter alia by raising awareness of the need to prevent and eliminate violence against women, with the aim of changing the attitudes and behaviour that allow such crimes to take place;

(k) To ensure that gender-sensitive approaches are applied in the development and application of procedures during data collection for the census and the registration of voters to deliver universal suffrage and the full participation of women in the national elections in 2004;

(l) To ensure the equal rights of women and girls to education, the effective functioning of schools throughout the country and the admission of women and girls to all levels of education, in a safe and secure environment, and to support the educational needs of those women and girls who were excluded from education in the past;

(m) To respect the equal right of women to work and promote their reintegration in employment in all sectors and at all levels of Afghan society;

(n) To protect the equal right of women and girls to security of person and to bring to justice those responsible for violence against women and girls;

(o) To continue demobilization and disarmament and facilitate the reintegration into society and work of women and girls who have been affected by war;

(p) To ensure the effective and equal access of women and girls, on the basis of equality among all Afghans, to the facilities necessary to protect the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, in accordance with the obligations of Afghanistan under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights;[34]

(q) To ensure the equal right of women to own land and other property, inter alia through the right to inheritance, and to undertake administrative reforms and other necessary measures to give women the same rights as men to credit, capital, appropriate technologies and access to and control over natural resources, as well as access to markets and information;

(r) To consider implementing gender budgeting in the national budget and in all budgets of ministries;

(s) To ensure that Afghan women are well represented at international conferences and that during the upcoming Berlin Conference adequate attention is given to issues relating to the rights of women and girls;

(t) To support measures to ensure the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms by women and girls, to hold accountable those who were responsible for gross violations of human rights in the past and to ensure that full investigations are conducted and the perpetrators brought to justice, in accordance with international standards, in order to combat impunity;

4. *Encourages* the continuing efforts of the United Nations and its agencies, donors and civil society, guided by Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 30 January 2003:

(a) To provide financial and technical assistance, including support to the Ministry of Women's Affairs and the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission, to ensure the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms by women and girls so as to strengthen the capacity of Afghan women to participate fully and effectively in conflict resolution and peace-building efforts and in civil, political, economic, cultural and social life;

(b) To support fully the Afghan Transitional Administration regarding the participation of women in society, inter alia by providing support to ministries to develop their capacity to mainstream gender issues into their programmes;

(c) To support capacity-building for Afghan women to enable them to participate fully in all sectors, with special emphasis on ensuring women's participation and representation in all aspects of the 2004 electoral process;

(d) To provide technical and other relevant assistance so that the judicial system has the capacity to adhere to international human rights standards;

5. *Invites* the United Nations system, international and non-governmental organizations, and donors:

(a) To ensure a human rights-based approach and coherent policy and resources for gender mainstreaming into all programmes and operations, based on the principles of non-discrimination and equality between women and men, and to ensure that women benefit equally with men from such programmes in all sectors;

(b) To ensure the full and effective participation of Afghan women in all stages of humanitarian assistance, recovery, reconstruction and development, including planning, programme development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation;

(c) To support the elements of civil society active in the field of human rights and encourage the involvement of women therein;

(d) To ensure that all their international and national personnel, prior to beginning their service, receive training in gender equality, as well as appropriate training in the history, culture and traditions of Afghanistan, and are fully familiar with and guided by international human rights standards;

(e) To integrate efforts to improve the health status of women within all reconstruction efforts, especially through access to skilled prenatal care, increasing access to skilled birth attendance, education programmes on basic health issues, community information activities and emergency obstetric care;

(f) To continue to support measures for the employment of women and the integration of a gender perspective into all social, development and reconstruction programmes, taking into account the special needs of widows and returning refugee and displaced women and girls, as well as those living in rural areas;

6. *Strongly urges* the Secretary-General to ensure that the important post of Senior Gender Adviser in the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan is filled immediately and with due regard to the need for continuity in this task;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to review the situation of women and girls in Afghanistan and to submit to the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-ninth session a report on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/11
Agreed conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women on the role of men and boys in achieving gender equality

The Economic and Social Council,

Endorses the following agreed conclusions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-eighth session with respect to the role of men and boys in achieving gender equality:

1. The Commission on the Status of Women recalls and reiterates that the Beijing Declaration[49] and Platform for Action[50] encouraged men to participate fully in all actions towards gender equality and urged the establishment of the principle of shared power and responsibility between women and men at home, in the community, in the workplace and in the wider national and international communities. The Commission also recalls and reiterates the outcome document[51] adopted at the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace in the twenty-first century", which emphasized that men must take joint responsibility with women for the promotion of gender equality.

[49] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.
[50] Ibid., annex II.
[51] General Assembly resolution S-23/3, annex.

2. The Commission recognizes that while men and boys sometimes face discriminatory barriers and practices, they can and do make contributions to gender equality in many capacities, including as individuals and as members of families, social groups and communities, in all spheres of society.

3. The Commission recognizes that gender inequalities still exist and are reflected in imbalances of power between women and men in all spheres of society. The Commission further recognizes that everyone benefits from gender equality and that the negative impacts of gender inequality are borne by society as a whole and emphasizes, therefore, that men and boys, through taking responsibility themselves and working jointly in partnership with women and girls, are essential to the achievement of the goals of gender equality, development and peace. The Commission recognizes the capacity of men and boys to bring about change in attitudes, relationships and access to resources and decision-making, which are critical for the promotion of gender equality and the full enjoyment of all human rights by women.

4. The Commission acknowledges and encourages men and boys to continue to take positive initiatives to eliminate gender stereotypes and promote gender equality, including combating violence against women, through networks, peer programmes, information campaigns and training programmes. The Commission acknowledges the critical role of gender-sensitive education and training in achieving gender equality.

5. The Commission also recognizes that the participation of men and boys in achieving gender equality must be consistent with the empowerment of women and girls, and acknowledges that efforts must be made to address the undervaluation of many types of work, abilities and roles associated with women. In this regard, it is important that resources for gender equality initiatives for men and boys do not compromise equal opportunities and resources for women and girls.

6. The Commission urges Governments and, as appropriate, the relevant funds, programmes and organizations and the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, the international financial institutions, civil society, including the private sector and non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders to take the following actions:

(a) Encourage and support the capacity of men and boys to foster gender equality, including by acting in partnership with women and girls as agents for change and providing positive leadership, in particular where men are still key decision makers, responsible for policies, programmes and legislation, as well as holders of economic and organizational power and public resources;

(b) Promote understanding of the importance of fathers, mothers, legal guardians and other caregivers for the well-being of children and the promotion of gender equality, and the need to develop policies, programmes and school curricula that encourage and maximize their positive involvement in achieving gender equality and positive results for children, families and communities;

(c) Create and improve training and education programmes to enhance awareness and knowledge among men and women of their roles as parents, legal guardians and caregivers and the importance of sharing family responsibilities, and include fathers as well as mothers in programmes that teach infant childcare and development;

(d) Develop and include in education programmes for parents, legal guardians and other caregivers information on ways and means to increase the capacity of men to raise children in a manner oriented towards gender equality;

(e) Encourage men and boys to work with women and girls in the design of policies and programmes for men and boys aimed at gender equality, and foster the involvement of men and boys in gender mainstreaming efforts in order to ensure improved design of all policies and programmes;

(f) Encourage the design and implementation of programmes at all levels to accelerate a sociocultural change towards gender equality, especially through the upbringing and educational process and by changing harmful traditional perceptions of and attitudes regarding male and female roles in order to achieve the full and equal participation of women and men in society;

(g) Develop and implement programmes for pre-schools, schools, community centres, youth organizations, sport clubs and centres and other groups dealing with children and youth, including training for teachers, social workers and other professionals who deal with children, in order to foster positive attitudes and behaviour with regard to gender equality;

(h) Promote critical reviews of school curricula, textbooks and other information, education and communication materials at all levels in order to recommend ways to strengthen the promotion of gender equality that involves the engagement of boys as well as girls;

(i) Develop and implement strategies to educate boys and girls and men and women about tolerance, mutual respect for all individuals and the promotion of all human rights;

(j) Develop and utilize a variety of methods in public information campaigns on the role of men and boys in promoting gender equality, including through approaches specifically targeting boys and young men;

(k) Engage media, advertising and other related professionals, through the development of training and other programmes, on the importance of promoting gender equality, the non-stereotypical portrayal of women and girls and men and boys and on the harm caused by portraying women and girls in a demeaning or exploitative manner, as well as on the enhanced participation of women and girls in the media;

(l) Take effective measures, to the extent consistent with freedom of expression, to combat the growing sexualization of, and use of pornography in, media content and in the rapid development of information and communications technology, encourage men in the media to refrain from presenting women as inferior beings and exploiting them as sexual objects and commodities, combat information and communications technology- and media-based violence against women, including criminal misuse of information and communications technology for sexual harassment, sexual exploitation and trafficking in women and girls, and support the development and use of such technology as a resource for the empowerment of women and girls, including those affected by violence, abuse and other forms of sexual exploitation;

(m) Adopt and implement legislation and/or policies to close the gap between women's and men's pay, and promote reconciliation of occupational and family

responsibilities, including through the reduction of occupational segregation, the introduction or expansion of parental leave, and flexible working arrangements, such as voluntary part-time work, teleworking and other home-based work;

(n) Encourage men, through training and education, to participate fully in the care and support of others, including older persons, persons with disabilities and sick persons, in particular children and other dependants;

(o) Encourage the active involvement of men and boys, through education projects and peer-based programmes, in eliminating gender stereotypes as well as gender inequality, in particular in relation to sexually transmitted infections, including HIV/AIDS, as well as their full participation in prevention, advocacy, care, treatment, support and impact evaluation programmes;

(p) Ensure men's access to and utilization of reproductive and sexual health services and programmes, including HIV/AIDS-related programmes and services, and encourage men to participate with women in programmes designed to prevent the transmission and treat all forms of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections;

(q) Design and implement programmes to encourage and enable men to adopt safe and responsible sexual and reproductive behaviour and to use effectively methods to prevent unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections, including HIV/AIDS;

(r) Encourage and support men and boys to take an active part in the prevention and elimination of all forms of violence, especially gender-based violence, including in the context of HIV/AIDS, and increase awareness of men's and boys' responsibility in ending the cycle of violence, inter alia through the promotion of attitudinal and behavioural change, integrated education and training prioritizing the safety of women and children, the prosecution and rehabilitation of perpetrators of violence and support for survivors, recognizing that men and boys also experience violence;

(s) Encourage increased understanding among men of how violence, including trafficking for the purposes of commercialized sexual exploitation, forced marriage and forced labour, harms women, men and children and undermines gender equality, and consider measures aimed at eliminating the demand for trafficked women and children;

(t) Encourage and support both women and men in leadership positions, including political leaders, traditional leaders, business leaders, community and religious leaders, musicians, artists and athletes, to provide positive role models of gender equality;

(u) Encourage men in leadership positions to ensure equal access for women to education, property rights and inheritance rights and to promote equal access to information technology and business and economic opportunities, including in international trade, in order to provide women with the tools to enable them to take part fully and equally in economic and political decision-making processes at all levels;

(v) Identify and fully utilize all contexts in which a large number of men can be reached, particularly in male-dominated institutions, industries and associations, in order to sensitize men on their roles and responsibilities in the promotion of

gender equality and the full enjoyment of all human rights by women, including in relation to HIV/AIDS and violence against women;

(w) Develop and use statistics to support and/or carry out research, inter alia, on the cultural, social and economic conditions that influence the attitudes and behaviour of men and boys towards women and girls, their awareness of gender inequalities and their involvement in promoting gender equality;

(x) Carry out research on the views of men and boys on gender equality and their perceptions of their roles, through which further programmes and policies can be developed, identify and widely disseminate good practices, and assess the impact of efforts undertaken to engage men and boys in achieving gender equality;

(y) Promote and encourage the representation of men in institutional mechanisms for the advancement of women;

(z) Encourage men and boys to support the equal participation of women in conflict prevention, management and resolution and in post-conflict peace-building;

7. The Commission urges all entities within the United Nations system to take into account the recommendations contained in the present agreed conclusions and to disseminate the agreed conclusions widely.

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/12
Agreed conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women on women's equal participation in conflict prevention, management and resolution and in post-conflict peace-building

The Economic and Social Council,

Endorses the following agreed conclusions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-eighth session with respect to women's equal participation in conflict prevention, management and resolution and in post-conflict peace-building:

1. The Commission on the Status of Women recalls and reiterates the strategic objectives and actions of the Beijing Declaration[52] and Platform for Action,[53] the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[54] and its agreed conclusions on women and armed conflict adopted at its forty-second session in 1998. It also recalls the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[55] Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security and all relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, including resolution 58/142 of 22 December 2003 on women and political participation.

[52] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.
[53] Ibid., annex II.
[54] General Assembly resolution S-23/3, annex.
[55] General Assembly resolution 34/180, annex.

2. The Commission calls for the full respect of international human rights law and international humanitarian law, including the four Geneva Conventions of 1949,[56] in particular the Fourth Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War.

3. The Commission calls for the promotion and protection of the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by women and girls at all times, including during conflict prevention, conflict management and conflict resolution and in post-conflict peace-building. It further calls for protection and security for women and girls under threat of violence and their freedom of movement and participation in social, political and economic activities.

4. The Commission recognizes that the root causes of armed conflict are multidimensional in nature and thus require a comprehensive and integrated approach to the prevention of armed conflict.

5. International cooperation based on the principles of the Charter of the United Nations enhances women's full and equal participation in conflict prevention, conflict management and conflict resolution and in post-conflict peace-building and contributes to the promotion of sustainable and durable peace.

6. To achieve sustainable and durable peace, the full and equal participation of women and girls and the integration of gender perspectives in all aspects of conflict prevention, management and resolution and in post-conflict peace-building is essential. Yet women continue to be underrepresented in the processes, institutions and mechanisms dealing with these areas. Further effort is therefore needed to promote gender equality and ensure women's equal participation at all levels of decision-making in all relevant institutions. Further effort, including consideration of adequate resourcing, is also needed to build and consolidate the capacity of women and women's groups to participate fully in these processes, as well as to promote understanding of the essential role of women. In this regard, the international community should use lessons learned from actual experience to identify and overcome barriers to women's equal participation.

7. The Commission recognizes that while both men and women suffer from the consequences of armed conflict, there is a differential impact on women and girls, who are often subject to, and affected by, particular forms of violence and deprivation. The Commission calls for measures to prevent gender-based violence, including sexual violence against women and girls, as well as trafficking in human beings, especially trafficking in women and girls, arising from armed conflict and in post-conflict situations and to prosecute perpetrators of such crimes.

8. The Commission encourages the collection and dissemination of sex-disaggregated data and information for planning, evaluation and analysis in order to promote the mainstreaming of a gender perspective into conflict prevention, management and resolution and in post-conflict peace-building.

9. Peace agreements provide a vehicle for the promotion of gender equality and the participation of women in post-conflict situations. Significant opportunities for women's participation arise in the preparatory phase leading up to a peace agreement. The content of a peace agreement likewise offers significant scope for ensuring that the rights, concerns and priorities of women and girls are fully

[56] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.

addressed. Finally, once a peace agreement has been concluded, its implementation should be pursued with explicit attention to women's full and equal participation and the goal of gender equality.

10. Women's full and equal participation and the integration of gender perspectives are crucial to democratic electoral processes in post-conflict situations. A gender-sensitive constitutional and legal framework, especially electoral laws and regulations, is necessary to ensure that women can fully participate in such processes. Political parties can play a crucial role in promoting women's equal participation. Steps are also necessary to ensure that women participate fully in, and that a gender perspective is incorporated throughout, the design and implementation of voter and civic education programmes and in election administration and observation.

11. Governments in particular, as well as the United Nations system, especially those United Nations entities having a mandate with regard to peace and security, and other relevant international, regional and national actors, including civil society, have a responsibility for advancing gender equality and ensuring women's full and equal participation in all aspects of peace processes and in post-conflict peace-building, reconstruction, rehabilitation and reconciliation, where they are participants in these processes.

12. In regard to conflict prevention, the Commission on the Status of Women calls on Governments, as well as all other relevant participants in these processes:

(a) To improve the collection, analysis and inclusion of information on women and gender issues as part of conflict prevention and early warning efforts;

(b) To ensure better collaboration and coordination between efforts to promote gender equality and efforts aimed at conflict prevention;

(c) To support capacity-building, especially for civil society, in particular for women's organizations, in order to increase community commitment to conflict prevention;

(d) To continue to make resources available nationally and internationally for the prevention of conflict and ensure women's participation in the elaboration and implementation of strategies for preventing conflict.

13. In regard to peace processes, the Commission on the Status of Women calls on Governments, as well as all other relevant participants in these processes:

(a) To promote women's full, equal and effective participation as actors in all peace processes, in particular negotiation, mediation and facilitation;

(b) To ensure that peace agreements address, from a gender perspective, the full range of security aspects, including legal, political, social, economic and physical, and also address the specific needs and priorities of women and girls;

(c) To ensure, in the implementation phase of a peace agreement, that all provisions concerning gender equality and the participation of women are fully complied with and that all provisions of the peace agreement, including those concerning demobilization, disarmament, reintegration and rehabilitation, are implemented in a manner that promotes gender equality and ensures women's full and equal participation;

(d) To promote women's full and equal access to public information relative to peace processes;

(e) To review, on a regular basis, their contributions to the promotion of gender equality and the full and equal participation of women, and to fulfil their monitoring, accountability and reporting obligations in the implementation of peace agreements;

(f) With regard to gender mainstreaming, to ensure and support the full participation of women at all levels of decision-making and implementation in development activities and peace processes, including conflict prevention and resolution, post-conflict reconstruction, peace-making, peacekeeping and peace-building and, in this regard, support the involvement of women's organizations, community-based organizations and non-governmental organizations;

(g) To develop and strengthen the provision of gender advisory capacity and gender sensitive training programmes for all staff in missions relating to armed conflicts.

In this regard, the Commission takes note of the report of the Secretary-General.[57]

14. In regard to post-conflict peace-building, the Commission on the Status of Women calls on Governments, as well as all other relevant participants in these processes,

Concerning elections:

(a) To ensure equal access of women in all stages of the electoral process and to consider the adoption of measures for increasing women's participation in elections through, inter alia, individual voter registration, temporary gender-specific positive actions and access to information, representation on bodies administering elections and as election monitors and observers, as well as encouraging political parties to involve women fully and equally in all aspects of their operations;

(b) To ensure equal access for women to voter and civic education, to provide women candidates with full support, training and financial resources and to eliminate discriminatory practices hampering women's participation either as voters or candidates.

Concerning reconstruction and rehabilitation:

(a) To ensure the full participation of women on an equal basis in the reconstruction and rehabilitation process;

(b) To ensure the equal access of women to social services, in particular in the areas of health and education, and, in this regard, to promote the provision of adequate health care and health services, assistance for women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations and counselling for post-conflict trauma;

(c) To facilitate equal employment opportunities for women to achieve economic empowerment.

15. The realization and the achievement of the goals of gender equality, development and peace need to be supported by the allocation of the necessary human, financial and material resources for specific and targeted activities to ensure

[57] E/CN.6/2004/10.

gender equality at the local, national, regional and international levels, as well as by enhanced and increased international cooperation.

16. The Commission on the Status of Women requests the Secretary-General to disseminate the present agreed conclusions widely, including to the high-level panel on global security threats and reform of the international system.

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/13
Celebration of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family and beyond

The Economic and Social Council,

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"*The General Assembly,*

"*Recalling* its resolutions 44/82 of 8 December 1989, 45/133 of 14 December 1990, 46/92 of 16 December 1991, 47/237 of 20 September 1993, 50/142 of 21 December 1995, 52/81 of 12 December 1997, 54/124 of 17 December 1999, 56/113 of 19 December 2001, 57/164 of 18 December 2002 and 58/15 of 3 December 2003 concerning the proclamation of, preparations for and observance of the International Year of the Family in 1994 and its tenth anniversary in 2004,

"*Recalling also* that relevant United Nations instruments on human rights as well as relevant global plans and programmes of action call for the widest possible protection and assistance to be accorded to the family, bearing in mind that in different cultural, political and social systems various forms of the family exist,

"*Recalling further* that the family is the basic unit of society and, as such, should be strengthened, and that it is entitled to receive comprehensive protection and support,

"*Noting* that the family-related provisions of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits of the 1990s and their follow-up processes continue to provide policy guidance on ways to strengthen family-centred components of policies and programmes as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

"*Recognizing* that the preparations for and observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family provided a useful opportunity for drawing further attention to the objectives of the Year for increasing cooperation at all levels on family issues,

"*Also recognizing* the commendable efforts made by Governments at the local and national levels in carrying out specific programmes concerning families,

"*Emphasizing* that equality between women and men and respect for all the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all family members are essential to family well-being and to society at large, noting the importance of reconciliation of work and family life, and recognizing the principle that both parents have common responsibilities for the upbringing and development of the child,

"*Aware* that families are affected by social and economic changes, manifested as observable worldwide trends, and that the causes and consequences of those trends concerning families have to be identified and analysed,

"*Noting with concern* the devastating effects of the HIV/AIDS pandemic on family life, as well as the devastating effects on family life of other infectious diseases, such as malaria and tuberculosis,

"*Also noting with concern* the devastating effects of difficult social and economic conditions, armed conflicts and natural disasters on family life,

"*Recognizing* the important role of non-governmental organizations, at both the local and the national levels, working in the interest of families,

"*Aware* that there is a need for continued inter-agency cooperation on the family in order to generate greater awareness of family issues among the governing bodies of the United Nations system,

"*Recalling* that the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family will be observed and celebrated during the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly,

"*Having considered* the report of the Secretary-General,[58]

"1. *Notes* that the follow-up to the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family is an integral part of the agenda and the multi-year programme of work of the Commission on Social Development until 2006;

"2. *Urges* Governments to continue to take sustained action at all levels concerning family issues, including applied studies and research, in order to promote the role of families in development and develop concrete measures and approaches to address national priorities in dealing with family issues;

"3. *Urges* the international community to address family-related concerns within the framework of the commitments undertaken at relevant major United Nations conferences and their follow-up processes, including those agreed to in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth special session in June 2001;[59]

"4. *Encourages* more inter-agency cooperation within the United Nations system on issues relating to the family;

"5. *Encourages* the regional commissions of the United Nations, within existing resources, to further promote the exchange of experiences at the

[58] E/CN.5/2004/3.

[59] Resolution S-26/2, annex.

regional level through the provision of technical assistance, including advisory services, to Governments upon request;

"6. *Emphasizes* that the Secretariat should continue its important role in the programme of work on family issues within the United Nations system and, in this regard, encourages the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, within existing resources, to continue to cooperate with Governments, the United Nations system and civil society in strengthening national capacities through the implementation of the mandated objectives of the Year, including through:

(a) The provision of policy guidance on emerging issues and trends affecting the family through the preparation of studies and research papers aimed, in particular, at enhancing the role of the family in society;

(b) The provision of technical assistance to countries, upon request, to enhance, where appropriate, their national capacities in the area of family-related work;

"7. *Invites* the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to disseminate a compilation of existing development cooperation activities of the United Nations system in the field of the family for the benefit of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, other relevant United Nations bodies, Member States and observers by the time of the holding of the forty-fourth session of the Commission for Social Development;

"8. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To give appropriate consideration to the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family by preparing the observance of the International Day of Families on 15 May 2004 and by taking appropriate steps for the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family;

(b) To continue to utilize the United Nations Trust Fund on Family Activities to provide financial assistance for activities specific to the family and for projects of direct benefit to it, with special focus on least developed and developing countries;

"9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session."

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/14
Comprehensive and integral international convention on protection and promotion of the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 56/168 of 19 December 2001, by which the Assembly established an Ad Hoc Committee, open to the participation of

all Member States and observers of the United Nations, to consider proposals for a comprehensive and integral international convention to promote and protect the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities, based on the holistic approach in the work carried out in the fields of social development, human rights and non-discrimination and taking into account the recommendations of the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission for Social Development,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/12 of 21 July 2003 on a comprehensive and integral international convention to promote and protect the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 58/246 of 23 December 2003, in which the Assembly decided that the Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities should start the negotiations on a draft convention at its third session,

Welcoming the important contributions made so far to the work of the Ad Hoc Committee by all stakeholders,

Welcoming the progress made in the working group established by the Ad Hoc Committee in preparing a draft text that will form the basis for negotiations on a draft convention in the Ad Hoc Committee, taking into account all contributions,

Encouraging Member States and observers to participate actively in the Ad Hoc Committee in order to present to the General Assembly, as a matter of priority, a draft text of a convention,

Reaffirming the universality, indivisibility and interdependence of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and the need for their full enjoyment to be guaranteed to persons with disabilities, without discrimination,

Recognizing the positive steps taken by Governments, including continued collaboration at the regional and international levels, to promote and protect the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities,

Encouraged by the increased support of the international community for the promotion and protection of the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities under a comprehensive and integral approach,

1. *Requests* the Commission for Social Development to continue to contribute to the process of negotiation of a draft international convention by, inter alia, providing its views regarding the social development perspective, bearing in mind the experience in the implementation of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities[60] and the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons;[61]

2. *Welcomes* the contributions of the Special Rapporteur on disability of the Commission to the process of elaboration of a draft convention, and requests the Special Rapporteur to contribute further to the work of the Ad Hoc Committee, drawing from her experience in the monitoring of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities and in collaboration with

[60] General Assembly resolution 48/96, annex.

[61] A/37/351/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex, sect. VIII, recommendations I (IV).

the Secretariat, by, inter alia, providing her views on the elements to be considered in drawing up a draft international convention;

3. *Requests* the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, through its Division for Social Policy and Development, to continue to support the work of the Ad Hoc Committee, in collaboration with the Special Rapporteur and other relevant United Nations bodies and agencies, through, inter alia, the provision of information on issues related to a draft international convention and the promotion of awareness of the work of the Ad Hoc Committee, from within existing resources;

4. *Underlines* the importance of strengthening cooperation and coordination between the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in order for them to jointly support the work of the Ad Hoc Committee;

5. *Invites* bodies, organs and entities of the United Nations system, including the funds and programmes, in particular those working in the fields of social and economic development and human rights, within their respective mandates, as well as non-governmental organizations, national disability and human rights institutions and independent experts with an interest in the matter, to continue to make available to the Ad Hoc Committee suggestions about elements to be considered in a draft international convention;

6. *Encourages* the relevant bodies of the United Nations to continue to promote and support the active participation of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 56/510 of 23 July 2002 and 57/229 of 18 December 2002, and requests the Secretary-General to disseminate widely to non-governmental organizations all available information on accreditation procedures, modalities and supportive measures for their participation in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee;

7. *Invites* Governments, civil society and the private sector to contribute to the voluntary fund established by the General Assembly to support the participation of non-governmental organizations and experts from developing countries, in particular from least developed countries, in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee;

8. *Stresses* the need for additional efforts to ensure reasonable accessibility to facilities and documentation at the United Nations for all persons with disabilities, in accordance with General Assembly decision 56/474 of 23 July 2002;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the Special Rapporteur to report, as part of their presentations to the Commission for Social Development at its forty-third session, on the implementation of the present resolution.

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/15
Further promotion of equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities, and protection of the human rights of persons with disabilities

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and reaffirming the obligations contained in relevant human rights instruments,

Recalling also General Assembly resolutions 37/52 of 3 December 1982, by which the Assembly adopted the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, 48/96 of 20 December 1993, by which it adopted the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities, and 58/132 of 22 December 2003,

Recalling further General Assembly resolutions 56/168 of 19 December 2001, by which the Assembly established the Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities, 57/229 of 18 December 2002, in which it sought views on proposals for a convention, and 58/246 of 23 December 2003, in which it decided that the Ad Hoc Committee should start negotiations on a draft convention at its third session,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 2002/26 of 24 July 2002 on further promotion of equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities and protection of their human rights, Commission on Human Rights resolution 2003/49 of 23 April 2003[62] on the human rights of persons with disabilities and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions,

Noting with satisfaction that the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities play an increasingly important role in the equalization of opportunities for persons with disabilities,

1. *Takes note* of the views of Governments, contained in the report of the Secretary-General to the Commission for Social Development,[63] on the proposals contained in the report of the former Special Rapporteur on disability of the Commission on Social Development,[64] especially on the proposed supplement to the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities contained in the annex to the report of the Special Rapporteur,[65] as well as the views expressed during the forty-second session of the Commission for Social Development;

2. *Welcomes* the work of the Special Rapporteur on disability undertaken in accordance with section IV of the Standard Rules;

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[62] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 3* (E/2003/23), chap. II, sect A.

[63] E/CN.5/2004/4.

[64] E/CN.5/2002/4.

[65] Ibid., annex.

3. *Recommends* that the General Assembly consider the proposed supplement to the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities contained in the annex to the report of the Special Rapporteur, with a view to completing its consideration at its fifty-ninth session;

4. *Also recommends* that the General Assembly, in considering the proposed supplement to the Standard Rules, take into account the work of the Ad Hoc Committee to consider proposals for a comprehensive and integral international convention to promote and protect the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities;

5. *Invites* the Special Rapporteur on disability to contribute to the consideration by the General Assembly of the proposed supplement to the Standard Rules, and requests the Secretary-General to make the Special Rapporteur's contributions available to all Member States and observer States;

6. *Encourages* Governments, as well as non-governmental organizations and the private sector, to continue to contribute to the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Disability in order to support the activities of the Special Rapporteur, as well as new and expanded initiatives to strengthen national capacities for the equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities;

7. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur, to submit a report on the monitoring of the implementation of the Standard Rules to the Commission for Social Development at its forty-third session.

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/16
Implementation of the social objectives of the New Partnership for Africa's Development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", held in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 56/218 of 21 December 2001, by which the Assembly established the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the General Assembly for the Final Review and Appraisal of the Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s to conduct, during the fifty-seventh session of the Assembly, the final review and appraisal of the New Agenda and related initiatives on the basis of the report of the Secretary-General on the independent high-level quality evaluation, as well as on the basis of proposals by the Secretary-General on the modalities of the future engagement of the United Nations with the New Partnership for Africa's Development and Assembly resolution 56/508 of 27 June 2002,

Reaffirming the United Nations Millennium Declaration[66] of 8 September 2000, the United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development[67] of 16 September 2002 and General Assembly resolution 57/7 of 4 November 2002 on the final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 58/233 of 23 December 2003 on the New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support, in which the Assembly, inter alia, welcomed the creation of the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa and requested the Secretary-General to continue to take measures to strengthen the Office to enable it to effectively fulfil its mandate,

Welcoming the adoption of the chapter entitled "Sustainable development for Africa" in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002,[68]

Cognizant of the link between the priorities of the New Partnership for Africa's Development and the United Nations Millennium Declaration, in which the international community committed itself to addressing the special needs of Africa, and of the need to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including those set out in the Millennium Declaration,

Bearing in mind the reports of the Secretary-General of 20 June 1995[69] and 12 June 2001[70] submitted to the high-level segments of the Economic and Social Council devoted to the consideration of the development of Africa,

Also bearing in mind that, while the primary responsibility for the development of Africa remains with African countries, the international community has a stake in it and in supporting the efforts of those countries in that regard,

Noting with appreciation the commitment of the international community in its support of the New Partnership, and welcoming in this regard the outcome of the third Tokyo International Conference on African Development,

Underlining that international cooperation based on a spirit of partnership and solidarity among all countries contributes to create an enabling environment for the achievement of the goals of social development,

Recognizing the urgent need to continue to assist African countries in their efforts to diversify their economies as well as enhance capacity-building and promote regional cooperation, and in this context notes the outcome of the fourth Pan-African Conference of Ministers of Public Service, held in Stellenbosch, South Africa, from 4 to 7 May 2003,

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[66] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

[67] See General Assembly resolution 57/2.

[68] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August to 4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[69] E/1995/81.

[70] E/2001/83.

Recognizing also the serious challenges facing social development in Africa, in particular illiteracy, poverty and HIV/AIDS, the scourge of malaria and other major communicable diseases,

1. *Emphasizes* that economic development, social development and environmental protection are interdependent and mutually reinforcing components of sustainable development;

2. *Recognizes* that while social development is primarily the responsibility of Governments, international cooperation and assistance are essential for the full achievement of that goal;

3. *Reiterates* the importance of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development;

4. *Reaffirms* the need to strengthen, in a spirit of partnership, inter alia, international, regional and subregional cooperation for social development and implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world";

5. *Also reaffirms* the need for effective partnership and cooperation between Governments and the relevant actors of civil society for the achievement of social development;

6. *Welcomes* the New Partnership for Africa's Development as a socio-economic programme of the African Union that embodies the vision and commitment of all African Governments and peoples;

7. *Also welcomes* the commitment of African countries to peace, security, democracy, good governance, human rights and sound economic management, as well as their commitment to taking concrete measures to strengthen the mechanism for conflict prevention, management and resolution, as embodied in the New Partnership, as an essential basis for sustainable development in Africa, and in this context welcomes the ongoing efforts of African countries to develop further the African peer review mechanism, which is an important and innovative feature of the New Partnership;

8. *Notes* the progress made with respect to the African peer review mechanism, in particular the accession of a number of member States of the African Union to the mechanism, as well as the appointment of the Panel of Eminent Persons;

9. *Stresses* the need for renewed and political will at the national, regional and international levels to invest in people and their well-being in order to achieve the objectives of social development;

10. *Emphasizes* that democracy, respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms and transparent and accountable governance and administration in all sectors of society, as well as effective participation by civil society, are among the indispensable foundations for the realization of social and people-centred sustainable development;

11. *Also emphasizes* the objectives of the New Partnership to eradicate poverty in Africa and to place African countries, both individually and collectively,

on a path of sustainable growth and development, thus facilitating Africa's participation in the globalization process;

12. *Underlines* the need for effective partnership and cooperation between Governments and the relevant actors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, in the implementation of and follow-up to the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development[71] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[72] and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly and the need for ensuring, within the framework of the New Partnership, their involvement in the planning, elaboration, implementation and evaluation of social policies at the national, regional and international levels;

13. *Welcomes with appreciation* actions already under way at the regional level to organize the activities of the United Nations system around thematic clusters[73] covering the priority areas of the New Partnership, and in that regard urges the strengthening of that process as a means of enhancing the coordinated response of the United Nations system in support of the New Partnership;

14. *Stresses*, in that context, the vital need for the United Nations in assisting Member States to achieve the development objectives and targets of the United Nations Millennium Declaration and to mainstream them in an integrated and coordinated manner in United Nations development activities;

15. *Recognizes* that illiteracy, poverty, HIV/AIDS, the scourge of malaria and other major communicable diseases add challenges to Africa's development, and urges the international community to continue to increase its assistance to African countries in their efforts to address these challenges;

16. *Notes* the African Union declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development of July 2003, in which the Union recognized the need for the formal integration of the New Partnership into the structures and processes of the Union, as well as the need to sustain the momentum, genuine interest, support and solidarity created by the New Partnership;

17. *Urges* the international community and the United Nations system to organize support for African countries in accordance with the principles, objectives and priorities of the New Partnership in the new spirit of partnership;

18. *Invites* the international financial institutions to ensure that their support for Africa is compatible with the principles, objectives and priorities of the New Partnership in the new spirit of partnership;

19. *Urges* the United Nations system, in coordinating its activities at the national, regional and global levels, to foster a coherent response, including through close collaboration with bilateral donors in the implementation of the New Partnership, in response to the needs of individual countries within its larger framework;

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[71] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[72] Ibid., annex II.

[73] The clusters are: infrastructure: water and sanitation, energy, transport, and information and communication technologies; governance, peace and security; agriculture, trade and market access; environment, population and urbanization; and human resources development, employment and HIV/AIDS.

20. *Welcomes* the decision of the General Assembly to invite the Economic and Social Council, pursuant to its role in respect of system-wide coordination, to consider how to support the objectives of General Assembly resolution 57/7 of 4 November 2002;

21. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General, in his efforts to harmonize current initiatives on Africa, to enhance coordination between the United Nations and its specialized agencies, programmes and funds;

22. *Acknowledges* the reflection by the Secretary-General of the social dimensions of the New Partnership in his report on the priority theme "National and international cooperation for social development" to the Commission for Social Development at its forty-first session,[74] and invites him to continue to reflect those dimensions in future reports submitted to the Commission on its priority themes;

23. *Invites* all development partners, including regional and international development partners and the United Nations system, to support the governance and public administration programme and the Pan-African Conference of Ministers of Public Service through the provision of critical resources and collaboration in building the capacity of local institutions and their staff to ensure sustainability into the future, as outlined in the Stellenbosch Declaration;[75]

24. *Acknowledges* the linkage between the work of the Committee of African Ministers of Public Service and the programmatic thrust of the New Partnership;

25. *Recommends* that the Commission for Social Development continue to give prominence to the social dimensions of the New Partnership in its future priority themes;

26. *Decides* to bring the present resolution to the attention of the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session during its consideration of the agenda item entitled "New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support".

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/17
Preparations for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

The Economic and Social Council,

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"*The General Assembly,*

"*Recalling* its resolution 56/119 of 19 December 2001 on the role, function, periodicity and duration of the United Nations congresses on the

[74] E/CN.5/2003/5 and Corr.1.

[75] Declaration of the fourth Pan-African Conference of Ministers of Public Service, held in Stellenbosch, South Africa, from 4 to 7 May 2003.

prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, in which it stipulated the guidelines in accordance with which, beginning in 2005, the congresses, pursuant to paragraphs 29 and 30 of the statement of principles and programme of action of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme,[76] should be held,

"*Recalling also* its resolution 57/170 of 18 December 2002 on the follow-up to the plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century,[77]

"*Recalling further* its resolution 57/171 of 18 December 2002, in which it decided that the main theme of the Eleventh Congress should be 'Synergies and responses: strategic alliances in crime prevention and criminal justice',

"*Recalling* its resolution 58/138 of 22 December 2003, in which it requested the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to accord sufficient time at its thirteenth session to reviewing the progress made in the preparations for the Eleventh Congress, to finalize in good time all the necessary organizational and substantive arrangements and to make its final recommendations, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly,

"*Recognizing* the significant contributions of the congresses in promoting the exchange of experience in research, law and policy development and the identification of emerging trends and issues in crime prevention and criminal justice among States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and individual experts representing various professions and disciplines,

"*Recognizing also* the efforts already made by the Government of Thailand to prepare for the hosting of the Eleventh Congress in Bangkok from 18 to 25 April 2005,

"*Stressing* the importance of undertaking all the preparatory activities for the Eleventh Congress in a timely and concerted manner,

"1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;[78]

"2. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the discussion guide[79] prepared by the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, for the regional preparatory meetings for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

"3. *Acknowledges* the relevance of the regional preparatory meetings, which have examined the substantive items of the agenda and the workshop

[76] General Assembly resolution 46/152, annex.
[77] General Assembly resolution 56/261, annex.
[78] E/CN.15/2004/11.
[79] A/CONF.203/PM.1 and Corr.1.

topics of the Eleventh Congress and made action-oriented recommendations[80] to serve as a basis for the draft declaration to be adopted by the Eleventh Congress;

"4. *Requests* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to begin preparation of a draft declaration at intersessional meetings to be held following its thirteenth session, for submission to the Eleventh Congress at least one month prior to its commencement, taking into account the recommendations of the regional preparatory meetings;

"5. *Approves* the draft programme of work for the Eleventh Congress and the documentation relating thereto;

"6. *Reiterates* its decision, contained in its resolution 58/138 of 22 December 2003, that the high-level segment of the Eleventh Congress shall be held during the last three days of the Congress in order to allow heads of State or Government or government ministers to focus on the main substantive agenda items of the Congress;

"7. *Emphasizes* the importance of the workshops to be held during the Eleventh Congress, and invites Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other relevant entities to provide financial, organizational and technical support to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and to the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network for the preparations for the workshops, including the preparation and circulation of relevant background material;

"8. *Invites* donor countries to cooperate with developing countries to ensure their full participation in the workshops, and encourages States, other entities concerned and the Secretary-General to work together in order to ensure that the workshops focus on the respective issues and achieve practical results, leading to technical cooperation ideas, projects and documents related to enhancing bilateral and multilateral efforts in technical assistance activities in crime prevention and criminal justice;

"9. *Reiterates* its invitation to Governments and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to inform the Eleventh Congress about their activities aimed at putting into practice the plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century,[77] with a view to providing guidance in the formulation of legislation, policies and programmes in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice at the national and international levels, and, to that end, requests the Secretary-General to compile that information and to prepare a report on the subject to be submitted to the Eleventh Congress for consideration;

"10. *Reiterates* its request to the Secretary-General to make available the resources necessary to ensure the participation of the least developed countries in the Eleventh Congress, in accordance with past practice;

[80] A/CONF.203/RPM.1/1, A/CONF.203/RPM.2/1, A/CONF.203/RPM.3/1 and Corr.1 and A/CONF.203/RPM.4/1.

"11. *Encourages* Governments to make preparations for the Eleventh Congress at an early stage by all appropriate means, including, where appropriate, the establishment of national preparatory committees, with a view to contributing to a focused and productive discussion on the topics and to participating actively in the organization and conduct of the workshops, the submission of national position papers on the various substantive items of the agenda and the encouragement of contributions from the academic community and relevant scientific institutions;

"12. *Reiterates* its invitation to Member States to be represented at the Eleventh Congress at the highest possible level, for example by heads of State or Government or government ministers and attorneys general, and to participate actively in the high-level segment;

"13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to facilitate the organization of ancillary meetings of non-governmental and professional organizations participating in the Eleventh Congress, in accordance with past practice, as well as meetings of professional and geographical interest groups, and to take appropriate measures to encourage the participation of the academic and research community in the Congress;

"14. *Encourages* the relevant specialized agencies and programmes of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as other professional organizations, to cooperate with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the preparations for the Eleventh Congress;

"15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, in collaboration with Member States, a wide and effective programme of public information relating to the preparations for the Eleventh Congress, to the Congress itself and to the follow-up to and implementation of its recommendations;

"16. *Welcomes* the appointment, by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, of a Secretary-General and an Executive Secretary of the Eleventh Congress, to perform their functions under the rules of procedure for United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice;

"17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare an overview of the state of crime and criminal justice worldwide for presentation at the Eleventh Congress, in accordance with past practice;

"18. *Calls upon* the Eleventh Congress to formulate concrete proposals for further follow-up and action, paying particular attention to practical arrangements relating to the effective implementation of the international legal instruments pertaining to transnational organized crime, terrorism and corruption and technical assistance activities relating thereto;

"19. *Requests* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its fourteenth session to give high priority to considering the conclusions and recommendations of the Eleventh Congress, with a view to recommending, through the Economic and Social Council, appropriate follow-up by the General Assembly at its sixtieth session;

"20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure proper follow-up to the present resolution and to report thereon, through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session."

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/18
Assistance to least developed countries to ensure their participation in the sessions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the sessions of conferences of States parties

The Economic and Social Council,

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"*The General Assembly,*

"*Recalling* its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, by which it adopted the United Nations Millennium Declaration, and in particular paragraph 15 of the Millennium Declaration, in which the heads of State and Government undertook to address the special needs of the least developed countries,

"*Recalling also* its resolution 58/228 of 23 December 2003, in particular paragraph 9 thereof, in which it requested the Secretary-General to take appropriate measures, within existing resources and with the full participation of the regional commissions and relevant United Nations bodies, to support the participation of the least developed countries in international meetings, as well as in their preparation and consultation processes,

"*Stressing* the need for the effective and timely ratification of the United Nations conventions and protocols relating to transnational organized crime, corruption and terrorism and their subsequent implementation,

"*Recognizing* the critical significance of those instruments, which provide a legal framework for strengthening international cooperation, based on mutual commitments by the least developed countries and their development partners to undertake specific action to ensure the full implementation of the provisions of the instruments,

"*Welcoming* the contributions already made by multilateral and bilateral donors to ensure the participation of representatives of least developed countries in the negotiation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[81] and the Protocols thereto,[82] as well as the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[83]

[81] General Assembly resolution 55/25, annex I.
[82] General Assembly resolutions 55/25, annexes II and III, and 55/255, annex.
[83] General Assembly resolution 58/4, annex.

"*Emphasizing* the importance of the effective participation of all relevant stakeholders from the least developed countries, developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the sessions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and in the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,

"1. *Calls upon* Member States, international organizations and funding institutions to redouble their efforts to increase their voluntary contributions to assist the Secretary-General in covering the cost of travel and daily subsistence allowance for the participation of representatives of least developed countries in the sessions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and in the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and requests the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to intensify efforts to ensure the increased participation of representatives of least developed countries in those meetings;

"2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its fourteenth session on the implementation of the present resolution."

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/19
Strengthening international cooperation and technical assistance in promoting the implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism within the framework of the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

The Economic and Social Council,

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"*The General Assembly,*

"*Recalling* its relevant resolutions on the prevention and suppression of terrorism, as well as Security Council resolutions 1269 (1999) of 19 October 1999, 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001, 1377 (2001) of 12 November 2001 and 1456 (2003) of 20 January 2003,

"*Recalling also* its resolutions 56/1 of 12 September 2001, in which it strongly condemned the heinous acts of terrorism of 11 September 2001 and urgently called for international cooperation to prevent and eradicate acts of terrorism, and 57/27 of 19 November 2002, in which it also condemned those in Bali and Moscow, as well as Security Council resolutions 1450 (2002) of 13 December 2002, 1465 (2003) of 13 February 2003, 1516 (2003) of 20 November 2003 and 1530 (2004) of 11 March 2004, condemning in the

strongest terms the bomb attacks in Kikambala, Kenya; Bogota; Istanbul, Turkey; and Madrid, respectively, and expressing its deepest sympathy and condolences to the victims of terrorist attacks and their families,

"*Condemning* the acts of violence perpetrated in many parts of the world against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel, in particular deliberate attacks, which are in violation of international humanitarian law as well as other international law that may be applicable, such as the attack against the headquarters of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq in Baghdad on 19 August 2003,

"*Recalling* its resolutions 58/136 and 58/140 of 22 December 2003, in which it, inter alia, encouraged the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime within its mandates in the area of preventing terrorism by providing Member States, upon request, with technical assistance, specifically to implement the universal conventions and protocols relating to terrorism, thereby strengthening international cooperation in preventing and combating terrorism, working in close coordination with the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism and the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat, as well as with international, regional and subregional organizations and specialized agencies,

"*Mindful* of its resolution 58/81 of 9 December 2003, in which it welcomed the efforts of the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to enhance, through its mandate, the capabilities of the United Nations in the prevention of terrorism, and recognized, in the context of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), the role of the Branch in assisting States to become parties to and implement the relevant international conventions and protocols related to terrorism,

"*Recalling* Security Council resolution 1535 (2004) of 26 March 2004 concerning enhancement of the ability of the Counter-Terrorism Committee to monitor the implementation of Council resolution 1373 (2001),

"*Recalling also* the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century,[84] which emanated from the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, held in Vienna from 10 to 17 April 2000,

"*Noting with appreciation* the issuance, in all the official languages of the United Nations, of the *Legislative Guide to the Universal Anti-Terrorism Conventions and Protocols*[85] which was reviewed by an expert group hosted by the International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences in Siracusa, Italy,

"*Noting also with appreciation* the guidelines for technical assistance within the framework of international cooperation against terrorism, which were formulated and reviewed during an expert group meeting held in Cape Town, South Africa, from 24 to 27 February 2004,

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[84] General Assembly resolution 55/59, annex.

[85] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.04.V.7.

"*Deeply concerned* that acts of international terrorism continue to be perpetrated, endangering the lives and well-being of individuals worldwide, as well as the peace and security of all States,

"*Reaffirming* its unequivocal condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomsoever committed, in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the relevant international conventions,

"*Recalling* that Member States must ensure that any measures taken to combat terrorism comply with all their obligations under international law and that such measures are adopted in accordance with international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law,

"*Mindful* of the essential need to strengthen international, regional and subregional cooperation aimed at enhancing the national capacity of States to prevent and suppress effectively international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

"1. *Commends* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for its work in preventing and combating terrorism through the provision of technical assistance, in close consultation with the Counter-Terrorism Committee, for the implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), in particular for the promotion of the ratification of, accession to and implementation of the universal conventions and protocols relating to terrorism;

"2. *Also commends* the efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to reinforce close cooperation with international, regional and subregional organizations, such as the Council of Europe, the International Monetary Fund, the Organization of American States, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe and the World Bank, and the Counter-Terrorism Committee in preventing and combating terrorism, an example of which was the follow-up meeting to the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee special meeting of 6 March 2003, with participants from international, regional and subregional organizations, organized by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, in close cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in Vienna on 11 and 12 March 2004, which resulted in the Vienna Declaration of 12 March 2004;[86]

"3. *Welcomes* the regional and subregional workshops held in Antalya, Turkey, and in Bamako, Khartoum, London, San José and Vilnius to familiarize national experts and criminal justice officials with the requirements of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and the requirements for becoming parties to and implementing the universal conventions and protocols relating to terrorism and international cooperation agreements, and encourages the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in coordination with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to ensure proper follow-up to those workshops, in cases where such follow-up is indicated by the participating States;

[86] S/2004/276, annex.

"4. *Calls upon* Member States that have not yet done so to become parties to and to implement the universal conventions and protocols relating to terrorism as soon as possible and, where appropriate, to request assistance to that end from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in coordination with the Counter-Terrorism Committee;

"5. *Invites* Member States that are not yet parties to those instruments to make use of the *Legislative Guide to the Universal Anti-Terrorism Conventions and Protocols*[85] in their efforts to incorporate the provisions of those instruments in their national legislation, and requests the Secretariat, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to develop the *Legislative Guide* further as a tool for the provision of technical assistance aimed at the implementation of the universal conventions and protocols relating to terrorism;

"6. *Requests* the Secretariat to submit the guidelines for technical assistance that were formulated and reviewed during the expert group meeting held in Cape Town, South Africa, from 24 to 27 February 2004 to the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice for discussion, with a view to consideration of the guidelines by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its subsequent session;

"7. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to work with international organizations, in particular specialized agencies and other relevant United Nations entities that undertake work that is complementary to that of the Office, in order to enhance synergies;

"8. *Urges* Member States to continue working together, including on a regional and bilateral basis and in close cooperation with the United Nations, to prevent and combat acts of terrorism by strengthening international cooperation and technical assistance within the framework of Security Council resolutions 1373 (2001), 1377 (2001) and 1456 (2003), as well as the universal conventions and protocols relating to terrorism, Council resolutions 1267 (1999) of 15 October 1999, 1333 (2000) of 19 December 2000, 1390 (2002) of 16 January 2002, 1455 (2003) of 17 January 2003, 1526 (2004) of 30 January 2004 and 1535 (2004) and other relevant United Nations resolutions, and in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and international law;

"9. *Invites* Member States to examine ways and means to reinforce international cooperation in criminal justice matters pertaining to terrorism prevention during the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice with a view to enhancing global efforts in the fight against terrorism;

"10. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to intensify its efforts to provide technical assistance, upon request, in preventing and combating terrorism through the implementation of the universal conventions and protocols relating to terrorism, with particular emphasis on the need to coordinate its work with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate, including training judicial and prosecutorial personnel, where appropriate, in the proper implementation of the universal conventions and protocols relating to terrorism;

"11. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to pursue an integrated, synergistic approach in the delivery of technical assistance to requesting States, taking into account the links that exist between terrorism and other forms of crime;

"12. *Expresses its appreciation* to donor countries that have supported the Global Programme against Terrorism, through voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund or the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, and invites all Member States to make voluntary contributions to the Fund in order to allow the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide technical assistance to requesting Member States;

"13. *Calls upon* Member States to strengthen, to the greatest extent possible, international cooperation in order to combat terrorism, including, when necessary, entering into bilateral treaties on extradition and mutual legal assistance;

"14. *Recognizes* the need for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to provide Member States, upon request, and in coordination with the Counter-Terrorism Committee, with technical assistance to strengthen international cooperation, including in international, national, regional and subregional forums, in terrorism-related criminal justice matters in the framework of the universal conventions and protocols and the relevant Security Council resolutions relating to terrorism;

"15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, an expert workshop, taking into account the need for adequate and equitable geographical representation and open to any Member State wishing to participate as an observer, to examine and analyse problems encountered by criminal justice practitioners in affording mutual legal assistance and granting extradition for terrorist offences, with a view to identifying proven and promising practices and possible ways of facilitating international cooperation, taking into account information that Member States may wish to provide;

"16. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session on the implementation of the present resolution."

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/20
International cooperation in the prevention, combating and elimination of kidnapping and in providing assistance to victims

The Economic and Social Council,

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Concerned* at the increase in the practice of kidnapping in various countries of the world and at the harmful effects of that crime on victims and their families, and determined to support measures to assist and protect them and to promote their recovery,

"*Reiterating* that the kidnapping of persons under any circumstances and for any purpose constitutes a serious crime and a violation of individual freedom and undermines human rights,

"*Noting* the transnational nature of organized crime and the tendency of organized criminal groups and terrorist groups to expand their illegal operations,

"*Concerned* at the growing tendency of organized criminal groups and terrorist groups to resort to kidnapping, especially for the purpose of extortion, as a method of accumulating capital with a view to consolidating their criminal operations and undertaking other illegal activities, such as trafficking in firearms and drugs, money-laundering and crimes related to terrorism,

"*Convinced* that the links between various illegal activities, including terrorism, and organized crime pose an additional threat to security and the quality of life, hindering economic and social development,

"*Convinced also* that the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[87] provides the legal framework necessary for international cooperation in the fight against kidnapping,

"*Recalling* Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/28 of 22 July 2003, entitled 'International cooperation in the prevention, combating and elimination of kidnapping and in providing assistance to victims', in which the Council requested the Secretary-General, drawing on extrabudgetary funds or voluntary contributions, to provide technical assistance to States, upon request, to enable them to strengthen their capacity to combat kidnapping, and to submit a progress report on that topic to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its thirteenth session,

"1. *Vigorously condemns and rejects once again* the practice of kidnapping, under any circumstances and for any purpose, especially when it is carried out by organized criminal groups and terrorist groups;

"2. *Reiterates* that organized criminal groups and terrorist groups, as well as all perpetrators, are responsible for any harm or death that may result from a kidnapping for which they are responsible, and should be punished accordingly;

"3. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on international cooperation in the prevention, combating and elimination of kidnapping and in providing assistance to victims[88] and of the recommendations presented therein, submitted pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolutions 2002/16 of 24 July 2002 and 2003/28;

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[87] General Assembly resolution 55/25, annex I.

[88] E/CN.15/2004/7 and Add.1.

"4. *Encourages* Member States to continue to foster international cooperation, especially extradition, mutual legal assistance, collaboration between law enforcement authorities and exchange of information, with a view to preventing, combating and eradicating kidnapping;

"5. *Calls upon* Member States that have not yet done so, in furtherance of the fight against kidnapping, to strengthen their measures against money-laundering and to engage in international cooperation and mutual assistance in, inter alia, the tracing, detection, freezing and confiscation of proceeds of kidnapping in order to combat organized criminal groups and terrorist groups;

"6. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to pay special attention to the considerable psychological, social and economic damage associated with kidnapping by adopting legislative, administrative or any other measures to provide appropriate support and assistance to victims and their families;

"7. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to prepare a handbook, for use by competent authorities, of proven and promising practices in the fight against kidnapping, including:

(a) Measures to prevent the crime of kidnapping that are directed at potential victims;

(b) Preventive measures aimed at disbanding organized criminal groups and terrorist groups;

(c) Cooperation or strategic alliances with the private sector;

(d) Response to and management of crises;

(e) Identification of the minimum elements that would help States to make adjustments to their domestic legislation with a view to having a common understanding of the crime of kidnapping, which would also help to ascertain reliable trends from a global perspective;

(f) Development of specialized measures for providing support and assistance to victims and their families;

(g) Information on national authorities responsible for preventing and combating kidnapping;

(h) Reporting procedures, rescue operations, information systems and prosecutions;

"8. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to provide technical assistance to States, upon request, to enable them to strengthen their capacity to combat kidnapping, including:

(a) Training of judges, prosecutors and other law enforcement officials in mechanisms for disbanding criminal organizations and in the use of special investigative techniques for the rescue of kidnapped persons, bearing in mind the particular need to safeguard and protect the victims;

(b) Review of trends and greater understanding of the problem in order to create a basis for developing policies and strategies against kidnapping."

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/21
Action against corruption: assistance to States in capacity-building with a view to facilitating the entry into force and subsequent implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption

The Economic and Social Council,

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Deeply concerned* about the impact of corruption on the political, social and economic stability and development of societies,

"*Bearing in mind* that the prevention and combating of corruption is a common and shared responsibility of the international community, necessitating cooperation at the bilateral and multilateral levels,

"*Bearing in mind also* that the prevention and eradication of corruption is a responsibility of all States and that they must cooperate with one another, with the support and involvement of individuals and groups outside the public sector, such as civil society, non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations, if their efforts to prevent and combat corruption are to be effective,

"*Reaffirming* its support and commitment to the goals of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, in particular the objectives set forth in the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century,[89]

"*Recalling* its resolution 58/4 of 31 October 2003, in which it adopted the United Nations Convention against Corruption and urged all States and competent regional economic organizations to sign and ratify it,

"*Noting with appreciation* the High-level Political Conference for the Purpose of Signing the United Nations Convention against Corruption, held in Merida, Mexico, in December 2003,

"*Noting also with appreciation* the initiative of those States which have pledged financial contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund in order to enable developing countries and countries with economies in transition to initiate measures to implement the Convention,

[89] General Assembly resolution 55/59, annex.

"1. *Welcomes* the signing of the United Nations Convention against Corruption[90] by a large number of Member States, which reflects the high level of commitment on the part of the international community to the purpose of the Convention;

"2. *Urges* Member States to consider signing and ratifying the United Nations Convention against Corruption as soon as possible, in order to allow its early entry into force and subsequent implementation;

"3. *Encourages* Member States to make adequate voluntary contributions, where appropriate, to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund to provide developing countries and countries with economies in transition with the technical assistance they may require to implement the Convention, including assistance for the preparatory measures required for implementation, taking into account article 62 of the Convention;

"4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with the resources necessary to enable it to promote, in an effective manner, the entry into force and implementation of the Convention, inter alia through the provision of assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for building capacity in the areas covered by the Convention;

"5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its fourteenth session on the implementation of the present resolution."

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/22
Preventing, combating and punishing trafficking in human organs

The Economic and Social Council,

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"*The General Assembly,*

"*Recalling* its resolution 53/111 of 9 December 1998, by which it established an open-ended intergovernmental ad hoc committee for the purpose of elaborating a comprehensive international convention against transnational organized crime and of discussing the elaboration, as appropriate, of international instruments addressing trafficking in women and children, combating illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, and illegal trafficking in and transporting of migrants, including by sea,

"*Recalling also* its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, in which it adopted the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons,

[90] General Assembly resolution 58/4, annex.

Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,

"*Recalling further* its resolution 55/255 of 31 May 2001, in which it adopted the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts, Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,

"*Concerned* about the negative economic and social implications of the activities of organized crime and the possible expansion of such crime, such as trafficking in human organs,

"*Alarmed* at the potential growth of exploitation by criminal groups of human needs, poverty and destitution for the purpose of trafficking in human organs, using violence, coercion and kidnapping, especially kidnapping of children, with a view to exploiting them by means of organ transplant operations,

"*Noting with concern* that trafficking in human organs, wherever it occurs, constitutes a gross violation of the human rights, including the integrity, of its victims,

"*Convinced* of the need to strengthen local, regional and international cooperation in effective prevention and combating of such activities wherever they occur,

"*Determined* to prevent the provision of safe haven to those who participate in or profit from transnational organized crime and to prosecute such persons for the crimes they commit,

"*Deploring* the commercialization of the human body,

"1. *Urges* Member States, should they ascertain that such a phenomenon exists in their country, to adopt the necessary measures to prevent, combat and punish the illicit removal of and trafficking in human organs;

"2. *Encourages* Member States to exchange experience in and information on preventing, combating and punishing the illicit removal of and trafficking in human organs;

"3. *Requests* the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to pay attention to the issue of the illicit removal of and trafficking in human organs;

"4. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in collaboration with the States and organizations concerned and subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to prepare a study on the extent of the phenomenon of trafficking in human organs for submission to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its fifteenth session."

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/23

International cooperation in the fight against transnational organized crime: assistance to States in capacity-building with a view to facilitating the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto

The Economic and Social Council,

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, in which it adopted the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,

"*Recalling also* its resolution 55/255 of 31 May 2001, in which it adopted the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,

"*Recalling further* its resolution 58/135 of 22 December 2003 on international cooperation in the fight against transnational organized crime: assistance to States in capacity-building with a view to facilitating the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,

"*Reaffirming its deep concern* at the impact of transnational organized crime on the political, social and economic stability and development of societies,

"*Reaffirming* that the adoption of the Convention and the Protocols thereto is a significant development in international criminal law and that they constitute important instruments for effective international cooperation against transnational organized crime,

"1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto;[91]

"2. *Welcomes* the entry into force of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and of the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by

[91] E/CN.15/2004/5.

Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;

"3. *Commends* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for its work in promoting the ratification of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, including, in particular, the preparation of legislative guides designed to facilitate the ratification and subsequent implementation of those instruments, and invites the Office to finalize the legislative guides and to disseminate them as widely as possible;

"4. *Urges* all States and relevant regional economic integration organizations that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, as soon as possible;

"5. *Urges* all States and relevant regional economic integration organizations to take all necessary measures to improve international cooperation in criminal matters, especially extradition and mutual legal assistance, in accordance with the Convention;

"6. *Welcomes* the financial support provided by several donors to promote the entry into force and implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and encourages Member States to make sufficient voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, as well as contributions in direct support of activities and projects of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, including through contributions to the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, for the provision of technical assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for the implementation of those international legal instruments;

"7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with the resources necessary to enable it to promote, in an effective manner, the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto and to discharge its functions as the secretariat of the Conference of the Parties in accordance with its mandate;

"8. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to assist States, upon request, with capacity-building in the area of international cooperation in criminal matters, in particular extradition and mutual legal assistance;

"9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution in his report on the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to be submitted to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session."

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/24

Establishment of an intergovernmental expert group to prepare a draft model bilateral agreement on disposal of confiscated proceeds of crime covered by the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling article 13, paragraph 2, of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[92] which obliges States parties to the Convention, when requested by other States parties, to take measures to identify, trace and freeze or seize proceeds of crime, property, equipment or other instrumentalities referred to in article 12, paragraph 1, of the Convention for the purpose of eventual confiscation, and recalling also article 14, paragraph 3, of the Convention, according to which States parties may give special consideration to concluding agreements on sharing with other States parties such confiscated proceeds of crime,

Recalling also article 5, paragraph 4 (b), of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[93] which provides for such measures as well,

Aware that requesting States, in pursuing property subject to confiscation located beyond their borders, and States executing requests from other States relating to confiscation often incur substantial expenses in investigations, prosecutions or judicial proceedings,

Mindful that an increasing number of States have concluded agreements on sharing confiscated proceeds of crime in order to foster cooperation in matters involving confiscation, for example by defraying case-related expenses,

Determined to strengthen international cooperation in the confiscation and disposal of the proceeds of crime covered by the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances,

Recognizing that a model bilateral agreement on sharing confiscated proceeds of crime could facilitate greater international cooperation in this matter and could contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, and that such a model agreement should not prejudice the principles set forth in the United Nations Convention against Corruption[94] or the development, at a later stage, of any appropriate mechanism to facilitate the implementation of that Convention,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, an open-ended intergovernmental expert group, the composition of which should reflect an equitable geographical representation and a

[92] General Assembly resolution 55/25, annex I.

[93] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

[94] General Assembly resolution 58/4, annex.

diversity of legal systems, to prepare a draft model bilateral agreement on sharing confiscated proceeds of crime covered by the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[92] and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988;[93]

2. *Accepts with gratitude* the offer of the Government of the United States of America to host the meeting of the open-ended intergovernmental expert group;

3. *Requests* the open-ended intergovernmental expert group, in carrying out its work, to take into account, where appropriate, existing agreements on sharing confiscated proceeds of crime and other relevant instruments developed in multilateral forums;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit the results of the meeting of the open-ended intergovernmental expert group to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its fourteenth session for their consideration.

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/25
The rule of law and development: strengthening the rule of law and the reform of criminal justice institutions, with emphasis on technical assistance, including in post-conflict reconstruction

The Economic and Social Council,

Bearing in mind that one of the fundamental purposes of the United Nations, as enshrined in the Preamble to the Charter of the United Nations, is to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained,

Recalling the ministerial-level discussion of the Security Council held in September 2003, during which the Council invited all Member States to contribute to enhancing the role of the United Nations in establishing justice and the rule of law in post-conflict societies,

Fully aware that the international community is confronted with the problem of conflict and war in certain parts of the world, especially in Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean,

Concerned about the activities of organized criminal groups engaged in trafficking in human beings, drug trafficking and money-laundering at the national and international levels, and in particular about the destabilizing impact of those activities on national security and peacekeeping and reconstruction efforts,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[95] in which heads of State and Government expressed their resolve to strengthen respect for the rule of law in international as in national affairs, and stated that they would spare no effort

[95] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

to strengthen respect for all internationally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, and would support the consolidation of democracy in Africa and assist Africans in their struggle for lasting peace, poverty eradication and sustainable development, thereby bringing Africa into the mainstream of the world economy,[96]

Bearing in mind that, in the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century, Member States emphasized that it was the responsibility of each State to establish and maintain a fair, responsible, ethical and efficient criminal justice system and that effective action for crime prevention and criminal justice required the involvement, as partners and actors, of Governments, national, regional, interregional and international institutions, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and various segments of civil society,[97]

Recalling the plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice, in particular the actions against transnational organized crime, corruption, money-laundering, terrorism and high-technology and computer-related crime and the actions on crime prevention, witnesses and victims of crime, prison overcrowding and alternatives to incarceration, juvenile justice, special needs of women in the criminal justice system, standards and norms and restorative justice,[98]

Recalling also the Basic Principles on the Independence of the Judiciary,[99]

Stressing that the participants in the Symposium on the Role of Judges in the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights,[100] held in Vienna on 24 November 2003, called upon States to ensure that the rule of law and the independence of the judicial system and its functioning were to be preserved, to the extent possible, in conflict situations and that judges and their staff were to be protected from unlawful pressure, which might hinder them from exercising their functions,

Noting the thematic discussions on the "Rule of law and development: the contribution of operational activities in crime prevention and criminal justice" held at the thirteenth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,

Recalling Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/43, entitled "Human rights in the administration of justice, in particular juvenile justice", in which the Commission encouraged all relevant parts of the United Nations system, as well as relevant regional and international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, including professional associations, to continue to develop and coordinate their activities in promoting human rights in the administration of justice, in particular juvenile justice, addressing as a matter of priority the needs of judges,

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[96] General Assembly resolution 55/2, paras. 9, 24 and 27.

[97] General Assembly resolution 55/59, annex, paras. 3 and 13.

[98] General Assembly resolution 56/261, annex, sects. I, II and VI-XV.

[99] *Seventh United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Milan, 26 August-6 September 1985: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IV.1), chap. I, sect. D.2, annex.

[100] See E/CN.4/2004/G/26, annex.

Recalling also the draft resolution entitled "Drug control and related crime prevention assistance for countries emerging from conflict",[101] recommended by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs for adoption by the Economic and Social Council, in which the Council would urge Member States emerging from conflict to give adequate priority to addressing the drug problem and related crime in their post-conflict reconstruction efforts,

Noting with satisfaction the steady progress being made towards restoring peace in a number of conflict zones throughout the world, especially in Africa, Asia and Latin America and the Caribbean,

Noting with appreciation the progress made by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the implementation of the criminal justice reform programme in Afghanistan, aimed at restoring the rule of law in that post-conflict society,

Recognizing the importance of the rule of law in post-conflict reconstruction and the consolidation of peace,

Noting the leading role of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat, among other entities, in providing assistance to countries in post-conflict situations,

1. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in coordination with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat and other relevant entities charged with providing assistance to countries in post-conflict situations, to consider specific practical strategies to assist in promoting the rule of law, especially in countries emerging from conflict, paying particular attention to the most affected countries in Africa and taking an integrated approach to crime prevention and criminal justice reform, with particular emphasis on protecting vulnerable groups, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources;

2. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide technical assistance and advisory services to Member States upon request in support of criminal justice reform and to incorporate elements concerning the rule of law into such assistance, wherever possible, including in the framework of peacekeeping and post-conflict reconstruction, in coordination with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and other relevant entities charged with providing assistance to countries in post-conflict situations, drawing on United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[102] and the Protocols thereto[103] and the United Nations Convention against Corruption; [104]

3. *Invites* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to develop assessment tools for criminal justice reform, including in the framework of peacekeeping and post-conflict reconstruction;

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[101] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 8* (E/2004/28), chap. I, sect. II, draft resolution I; subsequently adopted by the Economic and Social Council as resolution 2004/39.

[102] General Assembly resolution 55/25, annex I.

[103] General Assembly resolutions 55/25, annexes II and III, and 55/255, annex.

[104] General Assembly resolution 58/4, annex.

4. *Urges* Member States providing development assistance to countries emerging from conflict to increase, where relevant, their bilateral assistance in crime prevention and criminal justice to those countries;

5. *Invites* the global and regional intergovernmental financial and development institutions, including the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, to strengthen collaboration with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other providers of technical assistance in the area of the rule of law and to provide adequate funding for projects in the justice sector;

6. *Invites* the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network to include in their work programmes the question of the rule of law, with a view to contributing to a better understanding of the links between the rule of law and development, and to develop appropriate training materials;

7. *Urges* the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, to be held in Bangkok from 18 to 25 April 2005, to incorporate matters related to the rule of law in its programme of work, where relevant;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its fifteenth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/26
International cooperation in the prevention, investigation, prosecution and punishment of fraud, the criminal misuse and falsification of identity and related crimes

The Economic and Social Council,

Concerned at the proliferation of national and transnational cases of fraud and related economic crimes and the involvement of organized criminal groups, modern technologies and the criminal misuse and falsification of identity in such cases,

Convinced that forms of criminal misuse and falsification of identity such as the taking and criminal misuse of personal identifying information and the assumption of false identities constitute a significant and increasing problem related to fraud,

Convinced also that the criminal misuse and falsification of identity is commonly associated with other illicit activities, including money-laundering, of organized criminal groups, corruption and terrorism and that the proceeds of fraud are used to finance such activities,

Concerned that the spread of modern information and communication technologies creates a vast range of new opportunities for fraud and the criminal misuse and falsification of identity, which in turn jeopardizes the legitimate use of

such technologies and represents a threat to States seeking to use such technologies for development,

Recalling chapter XI of the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on its thirty-sixth session,[105] in which the Commission considered that it would be useful to conduct a study of forms of commercial fraud and that it might be possible for the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to conduct such a study,

Recalling also the report on the Colloquium on International Commercial Fraud, convened by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law and held in Vienna from 14 to 16 April 2004,[106]

1. *Condemns* the perpetration of fraud, the criminal misuse and falsification of identity and other illicit activities supported thereby;

2. *Encourages* Member States that have not already done so:

(a) To prevent, detect, investigate, prosecute and punish fraud and the criminal misuse and falsification of identity through criminal law and other measures;

(b) To take into account the need to prevent and combat fraud and the criminal misuse and falsification of identity in the development and regulation of relevant domestic commercial, financial or other institutions and systems;

(c) To facilitate the identification, tracing, freezing, seizure and confiscation of the proceeds of fraud and the criminal misuse and falsification of identity;

3. *Also encourages* Member States to cooperate with one another in efforts to prevent and combat fraud and the criminal misuse and falsification of identity, including through the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[107] and other appropriate international instruments, and to consider the review of domestic laws on fraud and the criminal misuse and falsification of identity, where necessary and appropriate, to facilitate such cooperation;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene, in consultation with regional groups and subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, an intergovernmental expert group, with representation based on the regional composition of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and reflecting the diversity of legal systems and open to any Member State wishing to participate as an observer, to prepare a study on fraud and the criminal misuse and falsification of identity, including:

(a) The nature and extent of fraud and the criminal misuse and falsification of identity;

(b) Domestic and transnational trends in fraud and the criminal misuse and falsification of identity;

(c) The relationship between fraud, other forms of economic crime, the criminal misuse and falsification of identity and other illicit activities, including organized crime, money-laundering and terrorism;

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[105] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/58/17).

[106] A/CN.9/555.

[107] General Assembly resolution 55/25, annex I.

(d) The prevention and control of fraud and the criminal misuse and falsification of identity using commercial and criminal law, criminal justice and other means, and how these can be harmonized;

(e) The particular problems posed by fraud and the criminal misuse and falsification of identity for developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

5. *Requests* the intergovernmental expert group to use the information gained by the study for the purpose of developing useful practices, guidelines or other materials in the prevention, investigation and prosecution of fraud and the criminal misuse and falsification of identity;

6. *Also requests* the intergovernmental expert group, in carrying out its work, to take into consideration the relevant work of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law and other bodies where relevant and appropriate, bearing in mind the need to avoid duplication;

7. *Invites* Member States to cooperate with and assist the intergovernmental expert group in its work, including by the provision of relevant and appropriate policy, legislative, research and other materials and by the provision of data about the nature and scope of fraud, the criminal misuse and falsification of identity and related problems in each country;

8. *Also invites* Member States to make voluntary contributions in order to support the work of the intergovernmental expert group and to facilitate the participation of experts from developing countries therein;

9. *Invites* the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, under the substantive item entitled "Economic and financial crimes: challenges to sustainable development" and at its Workshop on Measures to Combat Economic Crime, including Money-Laundering, to consider and discuss the issues of fraud and the criminal misuse and falsification of identity, and invites the intergovernmental expert group to take into account the results of those discussions in carrying out its work;

10. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General designate the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to serve as secretariat for the intergovernmental expert group, in consultation with the secretariat of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a progress report on the work of the intergovernmental expert group and the plan of work for the study to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its fourteenth session and to submit, in a timely manner, a substantive report containing the results of the study to the Commission at its fifteenth session or, if necessary, at its sixteenth session, for its consideration;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to circulate, in advance, the report on the work of the intergovernmental expert group and the results of the study, including any useful practices, guidelines or other materials, to all Member States in all official languages, in order to seek their views on the results of the study and to

reflect any views or concerns expressed in the final report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/27
Guidelines on justice for child victims and witnesses of crime

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 40/34 of 29 November 1985, by which the Assembly adopted the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power,

Recalling also the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 44/25 of 20 November 1989, in particular articles 3 and 39 thereof, as well as the provisions of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, adopted by the Assembly in its resolution 54/263 of 25 May 2000, in particular article 8 thereof,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century, annexed to General Assembly resolution 55/59 of 4 December 2000, as well as the plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration, annexed to Assembly resolution 56/261 of 31 January 2002, in particular the plans of action on witnesses and victims of crime and juvenile justice,

Bearing in mind also the document entitled "A world fit for children", adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution S-27/2 of 10 May 2002,

Recalling its resolution 1996/16 of 23 July 1996, in which it requested the Secretary-General to continue to promote the use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice,

Mindful of the serious physical, psychological and emotional consequences of various forms of crime for the victims, especially child victims,

Recognizing that the participation of child victims and witnesses of crime in the criminal justice process is essential in order to prosecute effectively various forms of crime, including in cases of sexual exploitation of children, trafficking in children and other forms of transnational organized crime where children are often the only witnesses,

Mindful of the public interest in a fair trial based on reliable evidence and also of the susceptibility of child witnesses and victims to suggestion or coercion,

Mindful also of the fact that child victims and witnesses of crime require special protection, assistance and support appropriate to their age, level of maturity and individual special needs in order to prevent additional hardship caused to them as a result of their participation in the criminal justice process,

Emphasizing that United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice contribute to the body of declarations, treaties and other instruments

spearheading criminal justice reform in Member States aimed at dealing effectively and humanely with any form of crime and its prevention worldwide,

Noting with appreciation the efforts of the International Bureau for Children's Rights in drawing up guidelines on justice for child victims and witnesses of crime, drafted together with a steering/drafting committee of renowned international experts in the area of child rights, criminal law and victimology,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene an intergovernmental expert group, with representation based on the regional composition of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and open to any Member State wishing to participate as an observer, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, in order to develop guidelines on justice in matters involving child victims and witnesses of crime;

2. *Requests* the intergovernmental expert group, within the context of its meeting, to take into consideration any relevant material, including the guidelines on justice for child victims and witnesses of crime drawn up by the International Bureau for Children's Rights, annexed to the present resolution;

3. *Invites* the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, under the substantive item entitled "Making standards work: fifty years of standard-setting in crime prevention and criminal justice", during the Workshop on Enhancing Criminal Justice Reform, including Restorative Justice, and during the ancillary meetings of non-governmental and professional organizations, to consider and discuss the issue of guidelines on justice for child victims and witnesses of crime, and invites the intergovernmental expert group to take into account the results of those discussions in carrying out its work;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its fifteenth session for its consideration and action a report on the results of the meeting of the intergovernmental expert group.

Annex

Guidelines on justice for child victims and witnesses of crime drawn up by the International Bureau for Children's Rights

I. Objectives and preamble

A. Objectives

1. The present guidelines on justice for child victims and witnesses of crime set forth good practice based on the consensus of contemporary knowledge and relevant international and regional norms, standards and principles.

2. The guidelines provide a practical framework to achieve the following objectives:

(a) To guide professionals and, where appropriate, volunteers working with child victims and witnesses of crime in their day-to-day practice in the adult and juvenile justice process at the national, regional and international levels, consistent

with the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power;[108]

(b) To assist in the review of national and domestic laws, procedures and practices so that these ensure full respect for the rights of child victims and witnesses of crime and fully implement the Convention on the Rights of the Child;[109]

(c) To assist Governments, international organizations, public agencies, non-governmental and community based organizations and other interested parties in designing and implementing legislation, policy, programmes and practices that address key issues related to child victims and witnesses of crime;

(d) To assist and support those caring for children in dealing sensitively with child victims and witnesses of crime.

3. Each jurisdiction will need to implement the present guidelines consistent with its legal, social, economic, cultural and geographical conditions. However, the jurisdiction should constantly endeavour to overcome practical difficulties in their application, as the guidelines are, in their entirety, a set of minimum acceptable principles and standards.

4. In implementing the guidelines, each jurisdiction must ensure that adequate training, selection and procedures are put in place to meet the special needs of child victims and witnesses of crime, where the nature of the victimization affects categories of children differently, such as sexual assault of girl children.

5. The guidelines cover a field in which knowledge and practice are growing and improving. They are neither intended to be exhaustive nor to preclude further development, provided it is in harmony with their underlying objectives and principles.

6. The guidelines should also be applied to processes in informal and customary systems of justice such as restorative justice and in non-criminal fields of law including, but not limited to, custody, divorce, adoption, child protection, mental health, citizenship, immigration and refugee law.

B. Considerations

7. The guidelines were developed:

(a) Cognizant that millions of children throughout the world suffer harm as a result of crime and abuse of power and that the rights of those children have not been adequately recognized and that they may suffer additional hardship when assisting in the justice process;

(b) Reaffirming that every effort must be made to prevent victimization of children, particularly through implementation of the Guidelines for the Prevention of Crime;[110]

(c) Recalling that the Convention on the Rights of the Child[109] sets forth requirements and principles to secure effective recognition of the rights of children

[108] General Assembly resolution 40/34, annex.
[109] General Assembly resolution 44/25, annex.
[110] Economic and Social Council resolution 2002/13, annex.

and that the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power[108] sets forth principles to provide victims with the right to information, participation, protection, reparation and assistance;

(d) Stressing that all States parties to international and regional instruments have a duty to fulfil their obligations, including the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Protocols;

(e) Recalling international and regional initiatives that implement the principles of the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power, including the *Handbook on Justice for Victims* and the *Guide for Policy Makers on the Declaration of Basic Principles*, both issued by the United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention in 1999;

(f) Recognizing that children are vulnerable and require special protection appropriate to their age, level of maturity and individual special needs;

(g) Considering that improved responses to child victims and witnesses of crime can make children and their families more willing to disclose instances of victimization and more supportive of the justice process;

(h) Recalling that justice for child victims and witnesses of crime must be assured while safeguarding the rights of accused and convicted offenders, including those that focus on children in conflict with the law, such as the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice (the Beijing Rules);[111]

(i) Bearing in mind the variety of legal systems and traditions, and noting that crime is increasingly transnational in nature and that there is a need to ensure that child victims and witnesses of crime receive equivalent protection in all countries.

C. Principles

8. In order to ensure justice for child victims and witnesses of crime, professionals and others responsible for the well-being of those children must respect the following cross-cutting principles as stated in other international instruments and in particular the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[109] as reflected in the work of the Committee on the Rights of the Child:

(a) *Dignity*. Every child is a unique and valuable human being and as such his or her individual dignity, special needs, interests and privacy should be respected and protected;

(b) *Non-discrimination*. Every child has the right to be treated fairly and equally, regardless of his or her or the parent or legal guardian's race, ethnicity, colour, gender, language, religion, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, property, disability and birth or other status;

(c) *Best interests of the child*. Every child has the right to have his or her best interests given primary consideration. This includes the right to protection and to a chance for harmonious development:

[111] General Assembly resolution 40/33, annex.

(i) *Protection.* Every child has the right to life and survival and to be shielded from any form of hardship, abuse or neglect, including physical, psychological, mental and emotional abuse and neglect;

(ii) *Harmonious development.* Every child has the right to a chance for harmonious development and to a standard of living adequate for physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social growth. In the case of a child who has been traumatized, every step should be taken to enable the child to enjoy healthy development;

(d) *Right to participation.* Every child has the right to express his or her views, opinions and beliefs freely in all matters, in his or her own words, and to contribute especially to the decisions affecting his or her life, including those taken in any judicial processes, and to have those views taken into consideration.

D. Definitions

9. Throughout the present guidelines, the following definitions apply:

(a) "Child victims and witnesses" denotes children and adolescents, under the age of 18, who are victims of crime or witnesses to crime regardless of their role in the offence or in the prosecution of the alleged offender or groups of offenders;

(b) "Professionals" refers to persons who, within the context of their work, are in contact with child victims and witnesses of crime and for whom the present guidelines are applicable. This includes, but is not limited to, the following: child and victim advocates and support persons; child protection service practitioners; child welfare agency staff; prosecutors and defence lawyers; diplomatic and consular staff; domestic violence programme staff; judges; law enforcement officials; medical and mental health professionals; and social workers;

(c) "Justice process" encompasses detection of the crime, making of the complaint, investigation, prosecution and trial and post-trial procedures, regardless of whether the case is handled in a national, international or regional criminal justice system for adults or juveniles, or in a customary or informal system of justice;

(d) "Child-sensitive" denotes an approach that takes into account the child's individual needs and wishes.

II. Guidelines on justice for child victims and witnesses of crime

A. The right to be treated with dignity and compassion

10. Child victims and witnesses should be treated in a caring and sensitive manner throughout the justice process, taking into account their personal situation and immediate needs, age, gender, disability and level of maturity and fully respecting their physical, mental and moral integrity.

11. Every child should be treated as an individual with his or her individual needs, wishes and feelings. Professionals should not treat any child as a typical child of a given age or as a typical victim or witness of a specific crime.

12. Interference in the child's private life should be limited to the minimum needed at the same time as high standards of evidence collection are maintained in order to ensure fair and equitable outcomes of the justice process.

13. In order to avoid further hardship to the child, interviews, examinations and other forms of investigation should be conducted by trained professionals who proceed in a sensitive, respectful and thorough manner.

14. All interactions described in the present guidelines should be conducted in a child-sensitive and empathetic manner in a suitable environment that accommodates the special needs of the child. They should also take place in a language that the child uses and understands.

B. The right to be protected from discrimination

15. Child victims and witnesses should have access to a justice process that protects them from discrimination based on the child, parent or legal guardian's race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, property, disability and birth or other status.

16. The justice process and support services available to child victims and witnesses and their families should be sensitive to the child's age, wishes, understanding, gender, sexual orientation, ethnic, cultural, religious, linguistic and social background, caste, socio-economic condition and immigration or refugee status, as well as to the special needs of the child, including health, abilities and capacities. Professionals should be trained and educated about such differences.

17. In many cases, special services and protection will need to be instituted to take account of the different nature of specific offences against children, such as sexual assault involving girl children.

18. Age should not be a barrier to a child's right to participate fully in the justice process. Every child has the right to be treated as a capable witness and his or her testimony should be presumed valid and credible at trial unless proven otherwise and as long as his or her age and maturity allow the giving of intelligible testimony, with or without communication aids and other assistance.

C. The right to be informed

19. Child victims and witnesses, their families and their legal representatives, from their first contact with the justice process and throughout that process, have the right to be promptly informed of:

(a) The availability of health, psychological, social and other relevant services as well as the means of accessing such services along with legal or other advice or representation, compensation and emergency financial support, where applicable;

(b) The procedures for the adult and juvenile criminal justice process, including the role of child victims and witnesses, the importance, timing and manner of testimony, and ways in which "questioning" will be conducted during the investigation and trial;

(c) The progress and disposition of the specific case, including the apprehension, arrest and custodial status of the accused and any pending changes to

that status, the prosecutorial decision and relevant post-trial developments and the outcome of the case;

(d) The existing support mechanisms for the child when making a complaint and participating in the investigation and court proceedings;

(e) The specific places and times of hearings and other relevant events;

(f) The availability of protective measures;

(g) The existing opportunities to obtain reparation from the offender or from the State through the justice process, through alternative civil proceedings or through other processes;

(h) The existing mechanisms for review of decisions affecting child victims and witnesses;

(i) The relevant rights for child victims and witnesses pursuant to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power.

D. The right to express views and concerns and to be heard

20. Professionals should make every effort to enable child victims and witnesses to express their views and concerns related to their involvement in the justice process.

21. Professionals should:

(a) Ensure that child victims and witnesses are consulted on the matters set forth in paragraph 19 above;

(b) Ensure that child victims and witnesses are enabled to express freely and in their own manner their views and concerns regarding their involvement in the justice process, their concerns regarding safety in relation to the accused, the manner in which they prefer to provide testimony and their feelings about the conclusions of the process.

22. Professionals should give due regard to the child's views and concerns and, if they are unable to accommodate them, should explain the reasons to the child.

E. The right to effective assistance

23. Child victims and witnesses and, where appropriate, family members should have access to assistance provided by professionals who have received relevant training as set out in paragraphs 41-43 below. This includes assistance and support services such as financial, legal, counselling, health and social services, physical and psychological recovery services, and other services necessary for the child's reintegration. All such assistance should address the child's needs and enable them to participate effectively at all stages of the justice process.

24. In assisting child victims and witnesses, professionals should make every effort to coordinate support so that the child is not subjected to excessive interventions.

25. Child victims and witnesses should receive assistance from support persons, such as child victim/witness specialists, commencing at the initial report and continuing until such services are no longer required.

26. Professionals should develop and implement measures to make it easier for children to give evidence and to improve communication and understanding at the pre-trial and trial stages. These measures may include:

(a) Child victim and witness specialists to address the child's special needs;

(b) Support persons, including specialists and appropriate family members to accompany the child during testimony;

(c) Guardians ad litem to protect the child's legal interests.

F. The right to privacy

27. Child victims and witnesses should have their privacy protected as a matter of primary importance.

28. Any information relating to a child's involvement in the justice process should be protected. This can be achieved through maintaining confidentiality and restricting disclosure of information that may lead to identification of a child who is a victim or witness in the justice process.

29. Where appropriate, measures should be taken to exclude the public and the media from the courtroom during the child's testimony.

G. The right to be protected from hardship during the justice process

30. Professionals should take measures to prevent hardship during the detection, investigation and prosecution process in order to ensure that the best interests and dignity of child victims and witnesses are respected.

31. Professionals should approach child victims and witnesses with sensitivity, so that they:

(a) Provide support for child victims and witnesses, including accompanying the child throughout his or her involvement in the justice process, when it is in his or her best interests;

(b) Provide certainty about the process, including providing child victims and witnesses with clear expectations as to what to expect in the process, with as much certainty as possible. The child's participation in hearings and trials should be planned ahead of time and every effort should be made to ensure continuity in the relationships between children and the professionals in contact with them throughout the process;

(c) Ensure speedy trials, unless delays are in the child's best interest. Investigation of crimes involving child victims and witnesses should also be expedited and there should be procedures, laws or court rules that provide for cases involving child victims and witnesses to be expedited;

(d) Use child-sensitive procedures, including interview rooms designed for children, interdisciplinary services for child victims integrated under one roof, modified court environments that take child witnesses into consideration, recesses during a child's testimony, hearings scheduled at times of day appropriate to the age

and maturity of the child, an on-call system to ensure the child goes to court only when necessary and other appropriate measures to facilitate the child's testimony.

32. Professionals should also implement measures:

(a) To limit the number of interviews. Special procedures for collection of evidence from child victims and witnesses should be implemented in order to reduce the number of interviews, statements, hearings and, specifically, unnecessary contact with the justice process, such as through use of pre-recorded videos;

(b) To avoid unnecessary contacts with the alleged perpetrator, his or her defence team and other persons not directly related to the justice process. Professionals should ensure that child victims and witnesses are protected, if compatible with the legal system and with due respect for the rights of the defence, from being cross-examined by the alleged perpetrator. Wherever possible, and as necessary, child victims and witnesses should be interviewed, and examined in court, out of sight of the alleged perpetrator, and separate courthouse waiting rooms and private interview areas should be provided;

(c) To use testimonial aids to facilitate the child's testimony. Judges should give serious consideration to permitting the use of testimonial aids to facilitate the child's testimony and to reduce potential for intimidation of the child, as well as exercise supervision and take appropriate measures to ensure that child victims and witnesses are questioned in a child-sensitive manner.

H. The right to safety

33. Where the safety of a child victim or witness may be at risk, appropriate measures should be taken to require the reporting of those safety risks to appropriate authorities and to protect the child from such risk before, during and after the justice process.

34. Child-focused facility staff, professionals and other individuals who come into contact with children should be required to notify appropriate authorities if they suspect that a child victim or witness has been harmed, is being harmed or is likely to be harmed.

35. Professionals should be trained in recognizing and preventing intimidation, threats and harm to child victims and witnesses. Where child victims and witnesses may be the subject of intimidation, threats or harm, appropriate conditions should be put in place to ensure the safety of the child. Such safeguards could include:

(a) Avoiding direct contact between child victims and witnesses and the alleged perpetrators at any point in the justice process;

(b) Using court-ordered restraining orders supported by a registry system;

(c) Ordering pre-trial detention of the accused and setting special "no contact" bail conditions;

(d) Placing the accused under house arrest;

(e) Wherever possible, giving child victims and witnesses protection by the police or other relevant agencies and safeguarding their whereabouts from disclosure.

I. The right to reparation

36. Child victims and witnesses should, wherever possible, receive reparation in order to achieve full redress, reintegration and recovery. Procedures for obtaining and enforcing reparation should be readily accessible and child-sensitive.

37. Provided the proceedings are child-sensitive and respect the present guidelines, combined criminal and reparations proceedings should be encouraged, together with informal and community justice procedures such as restorative justice.

38. Reparation may include restitution from the offender ordered in the criminal court, aid from victim compensation programmes administered by the State and damages ordered to be paid in civil proceedings. Where possible, costs of social and educational reintegration, medical treatment, mental health care and legal services should be addressed. Procedures should be instituted to ensure automatic enforcement of reparation orders and payment of reparation before fines.

J. The right to special preventive measures

39. In addition to preventive measures that should be in place for all children, special strategies are required for child victims and witnesses who are particularly vulnerable to repeat victimization or offending.

40. Professionals should develop and implement comprehensive and specially tailored strategies and interventions in cases where there are risks that child victims may be victimized further. These strategies and interventions should take into account the nature of the victimization, including victimization related to abuse in the home, sexual exploitation, abuse in institutional settings and trafficking. The strategies may include those based on government, neighbourhood and citizen initiatives.

III. Implementation

A. Professionals should be trained and educated in the present guidelines in order to deal effectively and sensitively with child victims and witnesses

41. Adequate training, education and information should be made available to front-line professionals, criminal and juvenile justice officials, justice system practitioners and other professionals working with child victims and witnesses with a view to improving and sustaining specialized methods, approaches and attitudes.

42. Professionals should be selected and trained to meet the needs of child victims and witnesses, including in specialized units and services.

43. This training should include:

(a) Relevant human rights norms, standards and principles, including the rights of the child;

(b) Principles and ethical duties of their office;

(c) Signs and symptoms that point to evidence of crimes against children;

(d) Crisis assessment skills and techniques, especially for making referrals, with an emphasis placed on the need for confidentiality;

(e) Impact, consequences and trauma of crimes against children;

(f) Special measures and techniques to assist child victims and witnesses in the justice process;

(g) Cross-cultural and age-related linguistic, religious, social and gender issues;

(h) Appropriate adult-child communication skills;

(i) Interviewing and assessment techniques that minimize any trauma to the child while maximizing the quality of information received from the child;

(j) Skills to deal with child victims and witnesses in a sympathetic, understanding, constructive and reassuring manner;

(k) Methods to protect and present evidence and to question child witnesses;

(l) Roles of, and methods used by, professionals working with child victims and witnesses.

B. Professionals should cooperate in the implementation of the present guidelines so that child victims and witnesses are dealt with efficiently and effectively

44. Professionals should make every effort to adopt an interdisciplinary approach in aiding children by familiarizing themselves with the wide array of available services, such as victim support, advocacy, economic assistance, counselling, health, legal and social services. This approach may include protocols for the different stages of the justice process to encourage cooperation among entities that provide services to child victims and witnesses, as well as other forms of multidisciplinary work that includes police, prosecutor, medical, social services and psychological personnel working in the same location.

45. International cooperation should be enhanced between States and all sectors of society, both at the national and international levels, including mutual assistance for the purpose of facilitating collection and exchange of information and the detection, investigation and prosecution of transnational crimes involving child victims and witnesses.

C. The implementation of the guidelines should be monitored

46. Professionals should utilize the present guidelines as a basis for developing laws and written policies, standards and protocols aimed at assisting child victims and witnesses involved in the justice process.

47. Professionals should periodically review and evaluate their role, together with other agencies in the justice process, in ensuring the protection of the rights of the child and the effective implementation of the present guidelines.

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/28
United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration, contained in General Assembly resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, in which the Assembly resolved to strengthen respect for the rule of law in international as in national affairs and to make the United Nations more effective in maintaining peace and security by giving it the resources and tools it needed for conflict prevention, peaceful resolution of disputes, peacekeeping, post-conflict peace-building and reconstruction,

Mindful of the report of 21 August 2000 of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations[112] and the discussions on justice and the rule of law held by the Security Council,

Noting the leading role of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat, among other entities, in providing assistance to countries in post-conflict situations,

Recognizing the critical importance of incorporating crime prevention and criminal justice components in post-conflict reconstruction, poverty alleviation and socio-economic development programmes in order to ensure economic progress and good governance,

Mindful of the importance for Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to use and apply United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice as important international principles in developing an efficient and fair criminal justice system, in particular in circumstances where the basic tenets of the rule of law are ineffective or absent or in post-conflict reconstruction,

Recalling its resolution 1993/34 of 27 July 1993, in particular section III, paragraph 7 (c) thereof, in which it requested the Secretary-General to commence without delay a process of information-gathering to be undertaken by means of surveys, such as reporting systems, and contributions from other sources,

Recalling also its resolution 2002/15 of 24 July 2002, in which it reaffirmed the importance of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, including in the framework of peacekeeping and post-conflict reconstruction,

Recalling further its resolution 2003/30 of 22 July 2003, in which it decided to group United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice into four categories for the purpose of targeted collection of information, in order to better identify the specific needs of Member States and to provide an analytical framework with a view to improving technical cooperation,

Reaffirming the important role of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in contributing to the effective use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice,

[112] A/55/305-S/2000/809.

Desirous of reforming and streamlining the current process of information-gathering with regard to the application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, in order to make it more efficient and cost-effective,

Wishing to streamline the provision of technical assistance in the use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice; [113]

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Intergovernmental Expert Group Meeting on United Nations Standards and Norms in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice held in Vienna from 23 to 25 March 2004; [114]

3. *Notes* the work undertaken by the Intergovernmental Expert Group Meeting on United Nations Standards and Norms in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

4. *Expresses its gratitude* to the Government of Canada for its financial support in the organization of the Intergovernmental Expert Group Meeting and to the European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control, affiliated with the United Nations, for assisting in the preparation of the information-gathering instruments for the first category of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice;

5. *Takes note* of the instruments for gathering information on United Nations standards and norms related primarily to persons in custody, non-custodial sanctions and juvenile and restorative justice, as revised by the Intergovernmental Expert Group Meeting;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to forward the information-gathering instruments referred to in paragraph 5 above to Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network and other United Nations entities for their comments;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to review the information-gathering instruments referred to in paragraph 5 above on the basis of the comments received and, following that review, to submit the revised instruments to an intersessional meeting of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice for approval;

8. *Invites* Member States to reply concerning the information-gathering instruments and to indicate their needs for technical assistance in the areas covered by the standards and norms referred to in paragraph 5 above;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its fifteenth session on the use and application of the United Nations standards and norms referred to in paragraph 5 above, in particular as regards:

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[113] E/CN.15/2004/9.

[114] E/CN.15/2004/9/Add.1.

(a) The difficulties encountered in the application of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice;

(b) Ways in which technical assistance can be provided to overcome those difficulties;

(c) Useful practices in addressing persisting and emerging challenges in crime prevention and criminal justice;

10. *Invites* Member States to strengthen the human and financial resources available to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in order to enable the Office to better assist States in conducting seminars, workshops, training programmes and other activities aimed at promoting the use and application of the United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to assist Member States, upon request, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, in the use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice through the development and implementation of technical assistance projects aimed at criminal justice reform;

12. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to work with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat and other relevant entities responsible for providing assistance to countries in post-conflict situations and, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to strengthen its capacity to provide technical assistance and advisory services to post-conflict reconstruction efforts by utilizing the instruments for gathering information on United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice to obtain data that will assist in integrating a crime prevention and criminal justice component into those activities;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the development of legal, institutional and practical arrangements for international cooperation under review, through appropriate mechanisms such as, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, the revision of the manuals on extradition and mutual legal assistance and preparation of model laws, in order to make international cooperation and technical assistance more effective;

14. *Invites* the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, to be held in Bangkok from 18 to 25 April 2005, under the agenda item "Making standards work: fifty years of standard-setting in crime prevention and criminal justice", to address the issues raised in the present resolution with a view to consolidating and making more effective the action of United Nations and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in this field;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene a meeting of intergovernmental experts, with representation based on the regional composition of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and open to observers, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, in cooperation with the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, to design information-gathering instruments on the following categories of United Nations standards and norms:

(a) Standards and norms related to legal, institutional and practical arrangements for international cooperation, wherever feasible;

(b) Standards and norms related primarily to crime prevention and victim issues;

16. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to forward the information-gathering instruments referred to in paragraph 15 above to Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network and other United Nations entities for their comments;

17. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to review the information-gathering instruments referred to in paragraph 15 above, on the basis of the comments received, and to present those instruments, together with his report on progress made in their preparation, to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its sixteenth session.

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/29
Strengthening international cooperation and technical assistance in combating money-laundering

The Economic and Social Council,

Bearing in mind the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[115] the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism,[116] the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[117] and the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[118]

Taking into account the activities of the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering, in particular its Forty Recommendations and eight Special Recommendations on Terrorist Financing, and those of similar regional bodies, such as the Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units,

Considering that multilateral action against the contemporary global phenomenon of transnational organized crime and its unlawful activities, including in particular trafficking in drugs, arms and human beings, money-laundering, corruption and the financing of terrorism, is important and involves shared responsibility and coordinated action by States in order to obtain greater coherence in conformity with relevant multilateral instruments,

Recognizing that the laundering of the proceeds of crime has spread internationally and in that way has become a worldwide threat to the stability and security of financial and commercial systems, including governmental structures, and that finding a solution to the problems stemming from organized crime and the proceeds of crime requires joint measures on the part of the international community,

[115] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.
[116] General Assembly resolution 54/107, annex.
[117] General Assembly resolution 55/25, annex I.
[118] General Assembly resolution 58/4, annex.

Stressing the need for sufficient harmonization of the legislation of States as to allow for a satisfactory level of coordination of their efforts for the prevention, control, investigation and suppression of money-laundering, including money-laundering related to the financing of terrorism and other criminal activities,

Recognizing that effective action against money-laundering requires strengthened international cooperation and the use of systems that facilitate collaboration and the exchange of information among the competent authorities in the States concerned,

Recognizing also the strategic need for States to possess an infrastructure suited to the conduct of financial analyses and investigations for a coordinated fight against money-laundering and the financing of transnational organized crime and of terrorism, using national, regional and international strategies,

Recognizing further the work carried out by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, especially the Global Programme against Money-Laundering, as a centre for coordination and provision of technical assistance in that regard,

Reiterating the importance of establishing national plans or strategies for combating the laundering of the proceeds of crime,

1. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to strengthen their capacity to prevent, control, investigate and suppress serious crimes related to money-laundering, including money-laundering related to the financing of terrorism and, in general, any criminal action connected with transnational organized crime;

2. *Also urges* Member States that have not yet done so to establish financial intelligence units or to strengthen those already in existence and to provide them with the administrative, legal and technical resources needed to make progress in their work, with a view to enhancing their capacity to prevent, detect and control money-laundering, including money-laundering related to the financing of terrorism;

3. *Recommends* to Member States that they hold consultations with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant bodies when drafting legislation against money-laundering in order to ensure that it is in conformity with applicable international instruments and relevant standards;

4. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue its work against money-laundering, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources and in cooperation with relevant regional and international organizations participating in activities designed to give effect to applicable international instruments and relevant standards for combating money-laundering, through the provision to Member States, upon request, of training, advisory assistance and long-term technical assistance, bearing in mind, inter alia, the Forty Recommendations and eight Special Recommendations on Terrorist Financing of the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering and the work of similar regional bodies;

5. *Encourages* Member States and the relevant international organizations to contribute to the mobilization of resources in order to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide technical assistance.

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/30
Second World Summit of Attorneys General and General Prosecutors, Chief Prosecutors and Ministers of Justice

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions on the use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, especially in relation to the Guidelines on the Role of Prosecutors,[119]

Stressing the important role that law enforcement and criminal justice professionals, in particular prosecutors, should play in the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[120] and the Protocols thereto,[121] the United Nations Convention against Corruption[122] and the twelve international legal instruments against terrorism,

Emphasizing the significance of promoting international cooperation in criminal matters, to which prosecutors can make a major contribution,

Aware of the outcome of the first World Summit of Attorneys General and General Prosecutors, Chief Prosecutors and Ministers of Justice, held in Guatemala from 2 to 5 February 2004, and the adoption of its declaration, which contains important recommendations for future action,

1. *Welcomes* the initiative of Qatar to act as host to the second World Summit of Attorneys General and General Prosecutors, Chief Prosecutors and Ministers of Justice, to be held in Doha in November 2005;

2. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources for that purpose, to assist the Government of Qatar in the preparation and substantive servicing of the Summit;

3. *Invites* the Summit to ensure that its programme is targeted to further strengthening international cooperation in criminal matters, taking into account the crucial role of prosecutors in enhancing law enforcement cooperation under the rule of law;

4. *Calls upon* the Summit to ensure that its conclusions and recommendations make a substantive contribution to the work of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[120] as well as to advance the ratification process of the United Nations Convention against Corruption[122] and the universal instruments against terrorism;

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[119] *Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Havana, 27 August-7 September 1990: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.IV.2), chap. I, sect. C.26, annex.

[120] General Assembly resolution 55/25, annex I.

[121] General Assembly resolutions 55/25, annexes II and III, and 55/255, annex.

[122] General Assembly resolution 58/4, annex.

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the conclusions and recommendations of the Summit to the attention of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/31
Prevention of urban crime

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 2003/26 of 22 July 2003 on the prevention of urban crime, in which it called upon all relevant United Nations organizations and bodies and international financial institutions to give appropriate consideration to the inclusion of urban crime prevention and law enforcement projects in their assistance programmes,

Recalling also the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution S-25/2 of 9 June 2001, which reaffirmed that the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements[123] and the Habitat Agenda[124] would remain the basic framework for sustainable human settlement development in the years to come,

Concerned about the seriousness of violent crimes in cities all over the world, which generates a fear of crime and has an impact on sustainable economic development, the quality of life and human rights,

Recalling that it had requested the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to prepare proposals for the provision of technical assistance in the area of crime prevention in accordance with the Guidelines for the Prevention of Crime,[125] including through capacity-building and training,

Recalling also that the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime have explored areas of mutual interest in order to collaborate in the betterment of good urban governance with a view to achieving the goals and targets of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[126] including linking urban safety and urban governance, developing a conceptual understanding and tools in relation to the role of local authorities in crime prevention, examining local manifestations of transnational organized crime and developing new forms of justice, policing and policies targeting groups at risk, in particular children, youth and women,

Taking note of the memorandum of understanding between the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme

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[123] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution I, annex I.

[124] Ibid., annex II.

[125] Economic and Social Council resolution 2002/13, annex.

[126] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

aimed at establishing a framework for collaboration, and noting that bilateral consultations have taken place and a programme of work has been developed,

Noting the progress made by Member States to establish effective policies and programmes in urban crime prevention, and encouraging increased sharing of experience,

1. *Welcomes* the initiative of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to collaborate with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on technical assistance in relation to crime prevention, including the links between local and transnational organized crime, through operational projects, joint workshops and the compilation of useful practices and guidelines;

2. *Also welcomes* the fact that due attention will be given to the issue of urban crime at the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in the Workshop on Strategies and Best Practices for Crime Prevention, in particular in relation to Urban Crime and Youth at Risk;

3. *Takes note* of the Safer Cities Programme of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, and encourages municipalities to join the related network;

4. *Welcomes* the initiative of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to establish, for developing countries, a database of good and promising practices in the area of urban crime prevention, in coordination with the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and the relevant institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network;

5. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to develop its knowledge and tools pertaining to the role of local authorities in the prevention of crime through the development of specific measures targeting groups at risk, in particular children and youth;

6. *Invites* Member States to make or increase voluntary contributions, as appropriate, to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, as well as to make or increase contributions in direct support of activities and projects, including through contributions to the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, in order to strengthen further the capacity of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide technical assistance;

7. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to provide technical assistance to States, upon request, in collaboration with other relevant entities, in the area of urban crime prevention;

8. *Calls once again upon* all relevant United Nations organizations and bodies and international financial institutions to give appropriate consideration to the inclusion of urban crime prevention and law enforcement projects in their programmes of assistance.

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/32
Implementation of technical assistance projects in Africa by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration, in which heads of State and Government pledged to support the consolidation of democracy in Africa and to assist Africans in their struggle for lasting peace, poverty eradication and sustainable development, thereby bringing Africa into the mainstream of the world economy,[127]

Concerned at the fact that Africa has in recent years become a significant zone of transit, trafficking and abuse of drugs and trafficking in firearms and human beings, and bearing in mind that a number of African countries are facing post-conflict instability,

Welcoming the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, entitled "Development, security and justice for all",[128] in which it was underlined that drug abuse and trafficking, organized crime, corruption, terrorism and the spread of HIV/AIDS had all impeded sustainable development in Africa,

Mindful of the difficulties encountered by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the implementation of its projects in Africa,

1. *Reaffirms* that recent developments in Africa call for particular attention, especially in the fight against drugs and crime;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to donor countries that have supported projects related to drug and crime issues on the African continent through their voluntary contributions to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and invites them to continue their efforts, and invites other potential donor countries to provide similar support;

3. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to improve the implementation of its projects in Africa, both at headquarters and in the field, and encourages the Office to continue those efforts;

4. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to produce a concept paper to analyse the current situation with respect to major drug and crime issues affecting the African continent and to propose policy directives, strategies and priority focus to gain support for assistance to Africa;

5. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in coordination with the African Union and interested Member States and subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to promote an exchange of views, based on the results of the concept paper, by organizing an appropriate special event among interested Member States, relevant agencies and institutes providing technical assistance to Africa, as well as those promoting South-South cooperation, in order:

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[127] General Assembly resolution 55/2, para. 27.

[128] E/CN.7/2004/9-E/CN.15/2004/2.

(a) To discuss ways of reducing impediments to economic growth and sustainable development caused by widespread criminality, such as drug trafficking, organized crime and corruption;

(b) To ensure that appropriate responses to drug and crime issues are incorporated as core elements within bilateral and multilateral development assistance policies in the context of the New Partnership for Africa's Development and other relevant initiatives;

(c) To explore ways of maximizing existing resources, including official development assistance, that could lead to improvements in the tackling of drugs and crime issues and to the strengthening of criminal justice institutions;

6. *Requests* Member States in the African region where projects are being implemented to mobilize national stakeholders and to make every effort to facilitate the implementation of such projects;

7. *Invites* Member States to promote synergies between technical assistance provided by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and bilateral and regional cooperation activities in the African region, in particular in the context of the New Partnership for Africa's Development;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its fourteenth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/33
Strengthening the technical cooperation capacity of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration, in which heads of State and Government resolved to take concerted action against international terrorism and to accede as soon as possible to all the relevant international conventions, as well as to intensify efforts to fight transnational crime in all its dimensions, including trafficking as well as smuggling of migrants and money-laundering,[129]

Reaffirming the values and principles enshrined in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, thereby emphasizing the importance of international cooperation and coordination among Member States in the fight against crime, in order to achieve sustainable development, improved quality of life, democracy and human rights,

[129] General Assembly resolution 55/2, para. 9.

Recalling the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century,[130] adopted by the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/59 of 4 December 2000, as well as the plans of action for its implementation,[131]

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 58/140 of 22 December 2003, on strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity,

Recalling further its resolution 2003/25 of 23 July 2003, on international cooperation, technical assistance and advisory services in crime prevention and criminal justice,

Welcoming the entry into force of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[132] as well as the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[133] and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[134]

Recognizing the importance of the entry into force of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[135]

Welcoming the adoption and opening for signature of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,[136]

Recognizing that these important new instruments of international cooperation require the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to respond to an increasing number of requests for technical assistance in the area of crime prevention and criminal justice reform,

Expressing its appreciation to those Member States which have provided extrabudgetary funds in 2003, thus allowing the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to carry out a large number of advisory services and technical assistance activities in least developed countries, developing countries, countries with economies in transition and countries in post-conflict situations,

1. *Commends* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for assisting Member States by responding to an increasing number of requests for advisory services and technical assistance in the implementation of projects, including with respect to the strengthening of institutional capacity, training in drafting of legislation and of law enforcement and criminal justice personnel and awareness-raising activities, in particular for parliamentarians, as well as in the development of national policies and promotion of legislative reform;

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[130] General Assembly resolution 55/59, annex.
[131] General Assembly resolution 56/261, annex.
[132] General Assembly resolution 55/25, annex I.
[133] Ibid., annex II.
[134] Ibid., annex III.
[135] General Assembly resolution 55/255, annex.
[136] General Assembly resolution 58/4, annex.

2. *Recognizes* the expansion of the technical assistance activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, including additional interregional advisory services, and encourages international, regional and national funding agencies, as well as international financial institutions, to support the technical cooperation activities and interregional advisory services of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

3. *Encourages* relevant entities of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, as well as other international and regional organizations, to strengthen their cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in order to ensure that, as appropriate, technical assistance activities in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, in particular to combat organized crime, corruption, trafficking in persons and terrorism and its financing, are properly brought into the mainstream of their respective programmes, so as to ensure that expertise available at the Office relating to crime prevention and criminal justice is fully utilized and that duplication of efforts is avoided;

4. *Reiterates* the need to have adequate resources available to further operationalize the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, taking into account the recently adopted integrated approach to drugs and crime;

5. *Invites* Member States to cooperate at the bilateral level with the least developed and developing countries and at the multilateral level with the United Nations and other international organizations within the framework of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;[132]

6. *Also invites* Member States to make or increase voluntary contributions, as appropriate, to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, as well as contributions in direct support of activities and projects of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in order to strengthen further the capacity of the Office to provide advisory services and technical assistance;

7. *Encourages* recipient Member States that are in a position to do so to contribute to the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime by providing the necessary infrastructure, as well as human and financial resources, for projects to be implemented in partnership with the Office;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to enhance further the resources available within the existing overall budgetary framework of the United Nations for operational activities and, in particular, the interregional advisory services of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime under section 23, Regular programme of technical cooperation,[137] of the regular budget of the United Nations;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make all possible efforts, including appeals to donors in the private sector, mobilization of resources and fund-raising, to increase extrabudgetary resources, including general-purpose funds, bearing in mind the need to safeguard the independence and international character of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

[137] A/58/6 (sect. 23).

2004/34
Protection against trafficking in cultural property

The Economic and Social Council,

Emphasizing the importance for States of protecting and preserving their cultural heritage in accordance with the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, adopted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on 14 November 1970,[138] and other relevant instruments such as the 1995 Unidroit Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects[139] and the 1954 Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict[140] and its two Protocols,

Reaffirming its resolution 2003/29 of 22 July 2003, entitled "Prevention of crimes that infringe on the cultural heritage of peoples in the form of movable property",

Recalling General Assembly resolution 58/17 of 3 December 2003, entitled "Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin",

Recalling also the model treaty for the prevention of crimes that infringe on the cultural heritage of peoples in the form of movable property, adopted by the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, which was welcomed by the General Assembly in its resolution 45/121 of 14 December 1990,

Noting with appreciation the Cairo Declaration on the Protection of Cultural Property, made at the international conference celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the 1954 Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, held in Cairo from 14 to 16 February 2004, as well as its relevant recommendations,

Alarmed that organized criminal groups are involved in trafficking in stolen cultural property and that the international trade in looted, stolen or smuggled cultural property is estimated at several billion United States dollars per year,

Stressing that the entry into force of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[141] is expected to create a new impetus in international cooperation to counter and curb transnational organized crime, which will in turn lead to innovative and broader approaches to dealing with the various manifestations of such crime, including trafficking in movable cultural property,

Expressing the need to enhance or to establish, as appropriate, standards for the restitution and return of movable property forming part of the cultural heritage of peoples after it has been stolen or trafficked and for its protection and preservation,

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[138] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 823, No. 11806.
[139] See http://www.unidroit.org.
[140] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 249, No. 3511.
[141] General Assembly resolution 55/25, annex I.

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the prevention of crimes that infringe on the cultural heritage of peoples in the form of movable property;[142]

2. *Welcomes* international, regional and national initiatives for the protection of cultural property, in particular the work of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and its Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to direct the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in close cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to convene an expert group meeting to submit relevant recommendations to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its fifteenth session on protection against trafficking in cultural property, including ways of making more effective the model treaty for the prevention of crimes that infringe on the cultural heritage of peoples in the form of movable property;

4. *Encourages* Member States asserting state ownership of cultural property to consider means of issuing statements of such ownership with a view to facilitating the enforcement of property claims in other States;

5. *Urges* Member States to continue to strengthen international cooperation and mutual assistance in the prevention and prosecution of crime against movable property that forms part of the cultural heritage of peoples, as well as to ratify and implement the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property[138] and the other relevant conventions;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its fifteenth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/35
Combating the spread of HIV/AIDS in criminal justice pre-trial and correctional facilities

The Economic and Social Council,

Alarmed at the continuing spread of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in pre-trial and correctional facilities,[143]

Recalling its resolution 1997/36 of 21 July 1997 on international cooperation for the improvement of prison conditions and its resolution 1999/27 of 28 July 1999 on penal reform,

142 E/CN.15/2004/10 and Add.1.

143 The term "pre-trial and correctional facilities" as used in the present text refers to the criminal justice aspect indicated in the title of the resolution.

Reaffirming its resolution 2002/15 of 24 July 2002 on United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice, in section II of which it invited Member States to undertake the necessary efforts to solve the problem of prison overcrowding,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 56/261 of 31 January 2001 on the plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century,[144] in particular the plans of action on crime prevention, on prison overcrowding and alternatives to incarceration, on juvenile justice and on the special needs of women in the criminal justice system,

Recalling also the objectives related to HIV/AIDS contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[145]

Welcoming the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS[146] adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth special session, on HIV/AIDS, in June 2001,

Acknowledging that HIV/AIDS is primarily, but not exclusively, a public health issue governed by the World Health Organization and coordinated by the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, combining the efforts of the nine co-sponsoring agencies and programmes within the United Nations system, which formulate and coordinate policy responses to this global problem,

Taking into account that, within that framework, specific vulnerable groups, such as prisoners, merit particular attention and, as such, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime has an important role within the framework of its mandate in questions of standards and norms related to pre-trial and correctional facilities,

Recalling Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 45/1[147] and 46/2[148] on strengthening strategies regarding the prevention of HIV/AIDS in the context of drug abuse, as well as its resolution 47/2 on prevention of HIV/AIDS among drug users,[149]

Recalling also Commission on Human Rights resolution 2003/47[150] on the protection of human rights in the context of HIV/AIDS, in which the Commission urged Member States to ensure that their prison policies and practices respect human rights in the context of HIV/AIDS, prohibit HIV/AIDS-related discrimination and promote effective programmes for the prevention of HIV/AIDS in pre-trial and correctional facilities,

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[144] General Assembly resolution 55/59, annex.

[145] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

[146] General Assembly resolution S-26/2, annex.

[147] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 8* (E/2002/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[148] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 8* (E/2003/28/Rev.1), chap. I, sect. C.

[149] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 8* and corrigendum (E/2004/28 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. D.

[150] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 3* (E/2003/23/Part I), Chap. II, sect. A.

Recalling further the concerns of the Commission on Human Rights, reflected in its resolution 2004/26[151] on access to medication in the context of pandemics such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria,

Mindful that the physical and social conditions associated with imprisonment may facilitate the spread of HIV/AIDS in pre-trial and correctional facilities, and thus in society,

Deeply concerned at the potential role of pre-trial and correctional facilities as multipliers or "incubators" of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, as the findings of the report of the United Nations Development Programme entitled *Reversing the Epidemic: Facts and Policy Options*[152] suggest,

Underlining the importance of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners[153] as guidelines for operating secure, safe and orderly pre-trial and correctional facilities, providing meaningful activities for prisoners, monitoring general prison conditions, ensuring an effective complaint system and providing for basic prisoner rights, including the right to adequate health care,

1. *Recognizes* that measures are needed to address overcrowding and to curb violence in pre-trial and correctional facilities;

2. *Invites* Member States to consider, where appropriate and in accordance with national legislation, the use of alternatives to imprisonment, as well as early release for prisoners with advanced AIDS;

3. *Recognizes* that effective HIV/AIDS prevention, care and treatment strategies require behavioural changes and increased availability of and non-discriminatory access to HIV/AIDS prevention, care and treatment, as well as increased research and development;

4. *Also recognizes* that prisoners have the right to adequate health care and that access to qualified medical personnel should be ensured;

5. *Suggests* that appropriate training should be given to managers and warders of pre-trial and correctional facilities to enable them to deal better with HIV/AIDS;

6. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to work in coordination with the United Nations Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS, the World Health Organization and other relevant United Nations entities to collect information and analyse the situation of HIV/AIDS in pre-trial and correctional facilities, with a view to providing Governments with programmatic and policy guidance, within its mandate in relation to standards and norms concerning such facilities, building on lessons learned and taking into account existing guidelines and recommendations from previous and ongoing activities in various regions of the world;

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[151] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 4* (E/2004/23/Part I and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[152] United Nations Development Programme, *Reversing the Epidemic: Facts and Policy Options* (Bratislava, 2004).

[153] *First United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Geneva, 22 August-3 September 1955: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. 1956.IV.4), annex I.A.

7. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate in relation to standards and norms concerning pre-trial and correctional facilities, to offer advice and expertise to the United Nations Joint Programme on HIV/AIDS, the World Health Organization and other relevant United Nations entities in order to ensure that the particular problems of HIV/AIDS in such facilities are adequately addressed;

8. *Invites* Member States to make voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, in direct support of activities and projects of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime related to prevention of HIV/AIDS in pre-trial and correctional facilities;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its fifteenth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/36
Control of cultivation of and trafficking in cannabis

The Economic and Social Council,

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961,[154] that Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[155] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971[156] and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[157]

"*Recalling also* Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 45/8 on the control of cannabis in Africa,[158]

"*Concerned* that, of all the substances listed in the international drug control treaties, cannabis is by far the most widely and most frequently abused, especially among young people,

"*Concerned also* that the abuse of cannabis, especially among young people, often leads to risk-taking behaviour,

"*Concerned further* that cultivation of and trafficking in cannabis are on the increase in Africa partly as a result of extreme poverty and the absence of

[154] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, No. 7515.
[155] Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.
[156] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.
[157] Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.
[158] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 8* and corrigenda (E/2002/28 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. C.

any viable alternative crop and partly because of the profitability of such activity and the high demand for cannabis in other regions of the world,

"*Noting with concern* that increased cultivation of cannabis in Africa is extremely dangerous for the ecosystem because it leads to extensive use of fertilizers, overexploitation of the soil and destruction of forests to make room for new cannabis fields, thus accelerating soil erosion,

"*Taking note* of the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2003,[159] in which the Board confirmed that the production of, trafficking in and abuse of cannabis continued to pose a serious problem in various regions of the world,

"*Aware* of the importance of programmes promoting alternative development, including, where appropriate, preventive alternative development,

"*Emphasizing* the primary importance of international cooperation in combating drug trafficking and drug abuse,

"1. *Welcomes* the 2003 cannabis survey conducted by Morocco in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

"2. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of voluntary funds, which might be either from general-purpose funds, in accordance with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs guidelines for the use of general-purpose funds,[160] or from earmarked funds, to begin a global survey of cannabis, initially with a market survey, before the forty-eighth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;

"3. *Also requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to support the creation or strengthening of national and subregional strategies and plans of action for the eradication of cannabis crops, subject to the availability of voluntary funds, which might be either from general-purpose funds, in accordance with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs guidelines for the use of general-purpose funds, or from earmarked funds;

"4. *Urges* Member States, in accordance with the principle of shared responsibility and as a sign of their commitment to the fight against illicit drugs, to extend cooperation to affected States, particularly in Africa, in the area of alternative development, including funding for research into crops offering viable alternatives to cannabis, environmental protection and technical assistance;

"5. *Encourages* Member States with experience and expertise in the eradication of illicit drug crops and alternative development programmes to share their experience and expertise with affected States, particularly in Africa;

"6. *Urges* all Member States to encourage appropriate access to international markets for products of alternative development projects in order

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[159] *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2003* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.04.XI.1).

[160] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 8* (E/2001/28/Rev.1), Part II, chap. I, resolution 44/20, annex.

to support efforts aimed at eliminating the production of narcotic drugs and promoting sustainable development;

"7. *Encourages* Member States to apply new strategies and tools to complement existing ones in efforts to combat trafficking in cannabis;

"8. *Calls upon* all States to ensure strict compliance with all the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961,[161] that Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[162] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971[163] and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988;[164]

"9. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, at its forty-eighth session, on the implementation of the present resolution."

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/37
Providing support to the Government of Afghanistan in its efforts to eliminate illicit opium and foster stability and security in the region

The Economic and Social Council,

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[165] outlining the interrelated commitments, goals and targets to be achieved, among others, on development, peace and security and setting the required framework for international cooperation for achieving those goals,

"*Recognizing* that the threat emanating from illicit opium poppy cultivation and production of and trafficking in illicit opium, as addressed at the Conference on Drug Routes from Central Asia to Europe, held in Paris on 21 and 22 May 2003, is a serious challenge to the security and stability of Afghanistan, its neighbouring countries and the region and poses a problem to countries throughout the world,

"*Taking note* of *Afghanistan: Opium Survey 2003*, published by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime,

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[161] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, No. 7515.
[162] Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.
[163] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.
[164] Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.
[165] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

"*Recognizing* the strong and continuing commitment made by the Transitional Administration of Afghanistan at the institutional, legal and administrative levels to eliminate opium poppy cultivation by the year 2013,

"*Reaffirming* the commitments undertaken by Member States in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, in which Member States recognized that action against the world drug problem was a common and shared responsibility and expressed their conviction that it must be addressed in a multilateral setting,[166]

"*Recalling* that the Security Council, on 17 June 2003, called on the international community to provide assistance to the Afghan Transitional Administration in collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and in line with the national drug control strategy,

"*Recalling also* that, in section II of its resolution 58/141 of 22 December 2003, it reaffirmed the Joint Ministerial Statement and further measures to implement the action plans emanating from the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, adopted during the ministerial segment of the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs,[167] and recommended that adequate help be provided to Afghanistan in support of the commitment of the Transitional Administration of Afghanistan to eliminate illicit opium,

"*Stressing* the importance and urgency of the implementation of the five action plans adopted by the International Counter-narcotics Conference on Afghanistan, held in Kabul on 8 and 9 February 2004, which were to form part of the discussion at the international conference entitled 'Afghanistan and the International Community: a Partnership for the Future', held in Berlin on 31 March and 1 April 2004, and the conclusion of the Kabul conference that the illicit drug issue is a top priority of all those interested in securing the future of Afghanistan,

"*Recalling* that, in the Joint Ministerial Statement and further measures to implement the action plans emanating from the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, the ministers and other government representatives participating in the ministerial segment of the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs recommended that adequate help be provided to Afghanistan in the framework of the comprehensive international strategy carried out, inter alia, under the auspices of the United Nations and through other multilateral forums, in support of the commitment of the Transitional Government of Afghanistan to eliminate the illicit cultivation of the opium poppy and in response to the unique situation of that country, reaffirmed that that should help the provision of alternative livelihoods and the fight against illicit trafficking of drugs and precursors within Afghanistan and in neighbouring States and countries along trafficking routes, including the strengthening of 'security belts' in the region, and that extensive efforts had to be made to reduce the demand for drugs globally in order to contribute to the sustainability of the elimination of illicit cultivation in Afghanistan and, in that context, affirmed that their response to that unique situation would not detract

[166] General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex, para. 2.

[167] A/58/124, sect. II.A.

from their commitment and resources devoted to the fight against drugs in other parts of the world,[168]

"*Recalling* that the International Narcotics Control Board, in its report for 2003, pointed out that trade in Afghan opiates generated funds that corrupted institutions, financed terrorism and insurgency and led to destabilization of the region,[169]

"*Recalling* the appeal to the international community made by the International Narcotics Control Board on 12 February 2004 to fully support the Afghan authorities in addressing the drug control situation, in order to meet the requirements of the international drug treaties, including article 14 of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961[170] and that Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[171]

"1. *Welcomes* the bilateral and multilateral support being provided by the international community, through the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other organizations;

"2. *Expresses* its support for the efforts of Member States aimed at strengthening regional cooperation in order to counter the threat to the international community posed by the illicit cultivation of opium poppy in Afghanistan and its illicit trade;

"3. *Calls upon* the international community to enhance financial and technical support to Afghanistan in order to enable the Government to implement successfully its national drug control strategy and thereby reduce the demand for illicit drugs in Afghanistan and the threat that illicit opium poppy cultivation and illicit opium trade have created to the peace, stability and socio-economic recovery of Afghanistan and to the security of the region and the other parts of the world;

"4. *Urges* all stakeholders to accelerate efforts to implement a combined strategy, comprising law enforcement, eradication, interdiction, demand reduction and awareness-building, including alternative livelihoods conceived in a broader development context than currently understood, with a view to creating sustainable livelihoods, independent of illicit opium;

"5. *Encourages* the Transitional Administration of Afghanistan to accelerate the implementation of the commitment that it courageously made to the five action plans adopted by the International Counter-narcotics Conference on Afghanistan, held in Kabul on 8 and 9 February 2004;

"6. *Reaffirms* the need to strengthen measures to reduce the global demand for illicit drugs, in order to support and contribute to the sustainability of efforts to eliminate illicit opium in Afghanistan;

"7. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of voluntary funds, which might be either from general-

[168] A/58/124, sect. II.A, para. 22.

[169] *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2003* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.04.XI.1), para. 203.

[170] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, No. 7515.

[171] Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.

purpose funds, in accordance with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs guidelines for the use of general-purpose funds,[172] or from earmarked funds, and encourages concerned Member States, international organizations and financial institutions to routinely mainstream counter-narcotics measures as part of their development cooperation strategies, in coordination with the development objectives of the Government of Afghanistan, so that sustainable alternative livelihoods are created in Afghanistan."

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/38
Follow-up on strengthening the systems of control over chemical precursors and preventing their diversion and trafficking

The Economic and Social Council,

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"*The General Assembly,*

"*Concerned* with the continued diversion and misuse of precursors and the fact that despite efforts undertaken by all States, including the producing, exporting, importing and transit States, chemical substances are increasingly feeding the manufacture of illicit drugs of natural or synthetic origin, a problem that deserves the utmost attention of all States,

"*Recalling* the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, devoted to countering the world drug problem together, in which Member States decided to establish the year 2008 as a target date for States to eliminate or considerably reduce the diversion of precursors,[173]

"*Recalling also* the Joint Ministerial Statement and further measures to implement the action plans emanating from the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, adopted during the ministerial segment of the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs,[174]

"*Stressing* the importance of Economic and Social Council resolutions 2003/32 of 22 July 2003, on training in precursor control, countering money-laundering and drug abuse prevention, and 2003/35, also of 22 July 2003, on strengthening the prevention and suppression of illicit drug trafficking,

"*Recalling* article 12, paragraphs 1, 9 (c) and 10, of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[175]

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[172] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 8* (E/2001/28/Rev.1), Part II, chap. I, resolution 44/20, annex.

[173] General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex, para. 14.

[174] A/58/124, sect. II.A.

[175] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

"*Reaffirming* the importance of using all available legal means or measures to prevent the diversion of chemicals from legitimate trade to illicit drug manufacture as an essential component of comprehensive strategies against drug abuse and trafficking and of preventing access to chemical precursors by those engaged in or attempting to engage in the processing of illicit drugs,

"*Reiterating* the importance of the effective and real-time exchange of information relating to the interdiction, diversion and suspected diversion of precursors, as an essential component of strategies to facilitate comprehensive investigations into cases relating to such diversion, including the identification of the modus operandi and entities involved and the initiation of appropriate legal action,

"*Encouraging* Member States to conduct backtracking law enforcement investigations in order to counter organized smuggling networks effectively,

"*Also encouraging* Member States to facilitate the exchange of information between the relevant agencies in order to identify the sources of seized precursor chemicals and those responsible for the shipping and diversion of those substances and to identify the sources of pharmaceutical preparations misused for illicit drug manufacture,

"*Noting* that links are increasingly being uncovered between the smuggling of drugs and the smuggling of precursor chemicals, including the use of similar modi operandi to conceal consignments in order to avoid detection,

"*Welcoming with satisfaction* the results so far achieved under Operation Purple and Operation Topaz and the new initiative called Project Prism, which were launched by the International Narcotics Control Board, in cooperation with Member States, to enhance controls over chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of cocaine, heroin and amphetamine-type stimulants respectively,

"*Concerned* that, without additional resources, the International Narcotics Control Board will not be able to carry out its important functions under the above-mentioned operations,

"1. *Urges* all Member States to put in place systems and procedures to ensure that the details of any interdiction, seizure, diversion or attempted diversion of precursors are communicated expeditiously to all Governments concerned and the International Narcotics Control Board and, insofar as possible, share relevant information so that methods frequently used for the national and international trafficking in chemicals may be identified, pursuant to article 12 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988;[176]

"2. *Reiterates* the importance of applying the know-your-client principle referred to in Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/39 of 22 July 2003, and stresses the necessity of strengthening the use of the mechanism of pre-export notifications, including by providing timely responses, especially through the efficient sharing of information;

[176] Ibid.

"3. *Invites* those States which do not have mechanisms to enable the real-time exchange of information under the current international operations to consider establishing a national focal point or central national authority in line with the standard operating procedures of the international operations, through which all information on licit and illicit consignments can be channelled, and invites all Member States to contribute to updating the directory of competent national authorities under the international drug control treaties, with a view to implementing article 12 of the 1988 Convention;

"4. *Recommends* that Member States develop or further adapt, where necessary, their regulatory and operational control procedures to counter the diversion of chemical substances into illicit drug production or manufacture, and encourages authorities to initiate or further strengthen coordination and cooperation between all regulatory and enforcement services involved in precursor control;

"5. *Invites* Member States and appropriate international and regional bodies to review intelligence on the smuggling of drugs and the smuggling of precursor chemicals, in order to identify common links and to plan appropriate operations to stop such activities;

"6. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that stopped diversion attempts receive the same investigative attention that would be afforded to a seizure of the same substance, since such cases could provide valuable intelligence that could prevent diversions elsewhere;

"7. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure that adequate mechanisms are in place, where necessary and to the extent possible, to prevent the diversion of preparations containing chemicals listed in tables I and II of the 1988 Convention, pertaining to illicit drug manufacture, in particular those containing ephedrine and pseudoephedrine;

"8. *Encourages* Member States, in order to counter smuggling networks effectively, to conduct backtracking law enforcement investigations and, where appropriate, to identify the source of the seized chemical precursors and those responsible for the consignment and ultimately the diversion;

"9. *Also encourages* Member States to investigate the possibility of establishing operational chemical profiling programmes, and invites all States to support, to the extent possible, such programmes;

"10. *Requests* the International Narcotics Control Board, pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/20 of 24 July 1995, to monitor international trade so that diversion attempts can be identified, preventing chemical precursors from reaching the illicit market;

"11. *Urges* the International Narcotics Control Board to continue to follow up all such cases of diversion by facilitating investigations by national authorities and to make its findings available to Governments through its annual report;

"12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the necessary resources to the International Narcotics Control Board to enable it to continue its work effectively under Operation Purple, Operation Topaz and Project Prism;

"13. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within the framework of his biennial reports on the implementation of the outcome of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly and taking into account the relevant resolutions adopted on the subject since the special session, to include in his report on the control of precursors, starting with his report to be submitted to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its forty-eighth session, recommendations on how to strengthen the use of the pre-export notification mechanism and ensure timely responses."

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/39
Drug control and related crime prevention assistance for countries emerging from conflict

The Economic and Social Council,

Bearing in mind the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[177] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971[178] and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[179]

Recalling the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction,[180] adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, and the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction,[181]

Bearing in mind that, in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,[182] the Assembly set goals and targets to be met by Member States by the years 2003 and 2008,

Recalling Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 42/5,[183] on international action to mitigate the effects of the relationship between drug abuse, illicit trafficking and conflict situations, and 43/4,[184] on international cooperation for the prevention of drug abuse among children,

Fully aware that the international community is confronted with the problem of conflict and war in some parts of the world, especially in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean and Oceania, and with the threat to civil society posed by illicit drugs,

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[177] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.
[178] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.
[179] Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.
[180] General Assembly resolution S-20/3, annex.
[181] General Assembly resolution 54/132, annex.
[182] General Assembly resolution S-20/2, annex.
[183] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 8* (E/1999/28/Rev.1), chap. I, sect. D.
[184] Ibid., *2000, Supplement No. 8* (E/2000/28), chap. I, sect. C.

Concerned that demand for, production of and trafficking in illicit narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances by organized criminal groups continue to pose a serious threat to the socio-economic and political systems, stability, national security and sovereignty of an increasing number of States, especially those emerging from conflict and war,

Concerned also about the activities of national and international organized criminal groups engaged in drug trafficking and, in particular, about the destabilizing impact of those activities on peacekeeping and reconstruction efforts,

Concerned further about reports of widespread abuse of drugs in countries emerging from conflict and war, among the general population and soldiers, especially child soldiers,

Aware that, in treating victims of conflict or war, self-medication or the long-term prescription of drugs by medical personnel may lead to drug dependence,

Convinced of the priority that must be assigned to the prevention of drug use and abuse among children, within the framework of the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction,

Recognizing the social, political, economic and other post-conflict challenges to reconstruction faced by countries emerging from conflict, in particular with regard to meeting the targets set out in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,

Recognizing also the importance of the rule of law for post-conflict reconstruction,

Noting with satisfaction the steady progress being made towards restoring peace in a number of conflict zones around the world, especially in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean and Oceania,

Mindful of the need to ensure that effective measures for the protection, rehabilitation, physical and psychological recovery and reintegration of women and children are systematically incorporated in all stages of the peace process, including peacekeeping and peace-building programmes,

Convinced that extending support for drug control will facilitate the consolidation of peace in countries emerging from conflict,

1. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to consider specific strategies to assist countries emerging from conflicts in their drug control and related crime prevention efforts, in collaboration with the Governments of the affected countries and other relevant United Nations entities involved in the peace process, and to give priority to those countries, subject to the availability of voluntary funds, which might be from general-purpose funds, in accordance with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs guidelines for the use of general-purpose funds,[185] or from earmarked funds;

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[185] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 8*, (E/2001/28/Rev.1), Part II, chap. I, resolution 44/20, annex.

2. *Calls upon* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to facilitate the mainstreaming of drug control programmes in the development efforts of countries emerging from conflict;

3. *Urges* Member States emerging from conflict to give adequate priority to addressing the drug problem and related crime in their post-conflict reconstruction efforts and to collaborate with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other development partners in order to address those problems in an integrated and comprehensive manner;

4. *Urges* Member States providing development assistance to countries emerging from conflict to increase, where relevant, their bilateral assistance in drug control and related crime prevention to those countries;

5. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, at its forty-eighth session, on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/40
Guidelines for psychosocially assisted pharmacological treatment of persons dependent on opioids

The Economic and Social Council,

Recognizing the existence of a large number of persons dependent on opioids,[186] who are either receiving or in need of treatment for their opioid dependence,

Respecting the sovereign right of Member States to establish and implement effective treatment strategies,

Noting the evidence on the effectiveness of various treatments, inter alia abstinence therapy,

Recognizing the existence of a wide range of evidence-based treatment options,

Emphasizing that psychosocially assisted pharmacological treatment is one of the treatment options available for improving the health, well-being and social functioning of persons dependent on opioids, and for preventing the transmission of HIV and other blood-borne diseases,

Acknowledging that the present resolution may be applicable only to Member States that are providing or planning psychosocially assisted pharmacological treatment for opiate addiction,

Recalling the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[187] in particular article 38, on measures against the abuse of drugs,

[186] "Dependent" is used in the present resolution to mean addicted.
[187] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

Recalling also the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction,[188] adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,

Taking into account the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the World Health Organization in 1993 after the twenty-eighth meeting of the Expert Committee on Drug Dependence, on the need to increase access to effective treatment,

Taking note of the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2003,[189] in particular paragraphs 222 and 328 of that report,

Taking note also of the position paper of the World Health Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS on substitution maintenance therapy in the management of opioid dependence and HIV/AIDS prevention,

Acknowledging that work has been undertaken on psychosocially assisted pharmacological treatment in different regions,

Invites the World Health Organization, in collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, subject to the availability of voluntary funds, which might be either from general-purpose funds, in accordance with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs guidelines for the use of general-purpose funds,[185] or from earmarked funds, to develop and publish minimum requirements and international guidelines on psychosocially assisted pharmacological treatment of persons dependent on opioids,[190] taking into account regional initiatives in this field, in order to assist the Member States concerned.

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/41
Control of the manufacture of, trafficking in and abuse of synthetic drugs

The Economic and Social Council,

Concerned at the escalation of the problem of illicit supply of, trafficking in and diversion of synthetic drugs and the expansion of the illicit market for such drugs,

Noting that the supply of illicit drugs, including synthetic drugs, is harmful to public health and that the demand for such drugs is prevalent among young persons,

Recognizing that education and training are prerequisites for the efficient performance of the various tasks that institutions and their officials must carry out in order to deal with the world drug problem,

[188] General Assembly resolution S-20/3, annex.

[189] *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2003* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.04.XI.1).

[190] See, for example, M. Gossop, M. Grant and A. Wodak, eds., *The Uses of Methadone in the Treatment and Management of Opioid Dependence*, WHO/MNH/DAT/89.1 (Geneva, World Health Organization, 1989).

Deeply concerned that an increasing number of people are placing their health at risk by abusing amphetamine-type stimulants, because they do not recognize or are not aware of the health hazards associated with the abuse of such stimulants, in particular the abuse of methylenedioxymethamphetamine, commonly known as Ecstasy,

Noting that reducing both the illicit demand for and supply of amphetamine-type stimulants in a comprehensive and proactive manner requires strong political commitment,

Noting also that strategies to reduce the illicit demand for and supply of amphetamine-type stimulants require accurate information, including data on the manufacture of, trafficking in and abuse of such stimulants,

Considering that, in view of the extent of the abuse of amphetamine-type stimulants among young people and among persons in certain occupational groups, there is a need for more systematic research into the health hazards of the abuse of such stimulants that will contribute to improving the design of health education and prevention programmes, as well as treatment services, to meet the needs of all persons abusing amphetamine-type stimulants,

Considering also that systematic research into the health hazards of the abuse of amphetamine-type stimulants is crucial to assessments of the broader health and social implications of the specific patterns of abuse of such stimulants,

Acknowledging the importance of early warning mechanisms and rapid and global dissemination of information on new drugs, drug combinations and drug abuse patterns and more detailed information, such as the dyes, logos, machinery and other equipment used in the manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants,

1. *Expresses its gratitude* to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime for the publication of *Ecstasy and Amphetamines: Global Survey 2003*,[191] which provides a quantitative assessment of the extent of manufacture of, trafficking in and abuse of amphetamine-type stimulants throughout the world;

2. *Requests* Member States to continue to develop programmes to reduce both the illicit supply of and demand for amphetamine-type stimulants;

3. *Urges* Member States to take the steps necessary to ensure that their national drug control agencies are aware of and well trained in the recognition of amphetamine-type stimulants and the current modi operandi used to smuggle such stimulants and are also well trained in the interdiction of consignments of illicitly manufactured amphetamine-type stimulants;

4. *Also urges* Member States to monitor changing patterns in the abuse and availability of synthetic drugs, including methylenedioxymethamphetamine, commonly known as Ecstasy;

5. *Calls upon* Member States to include, in a multifaceted strategy, action against the illicit manufacture of, trafficking in and abuse of amphetamine-type stimulants and to identify and dismantle clandestine laboratories manufacturing such stimulants;

[191] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.XI.15.

6. *Encourages* Member States to provide their full and active support to Project Prism, an initiative of the International Narcotics Control Board, to address the illicit manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants by following the twofold approach of the Project, namely, by establishing mechanisms to prevent precursor chemicals from being diverted from licit international trade or domestic distribution channels and by launching backtracking investigations of seizures and interceptions to identify the illicit sources and the persons involved;

7. *Urges* Member States to provide accurate evidence-based information on the harmful effects of amphetamine-type stimulants, through education and information campaigns to increase public knowledge and awareness of those harmful effects, with a view to decreasing the demand for such stimulants, particularly among young people;

8. *Urges* States engaged in the licit manufacture, import, export and transit of precursor chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants to implement fully the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988[192] and, where appropriate, to strengthen controls over those substances, in conformity with that Convention;

9. *Urges* relevant international organizations to consider providing support for training and other forms of technical assistance aimed at countering the threat of synthetic drugs, including by strengthening preventive measures;

10. *Encourages* the relevant international organizations and other entities, in particular the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, to continue to recognize the serious global threat posed by synthetic drugs and to pursue appropriate action to ameliorate the situation;

11. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, at its forty-eighth session, on the implementation of the present resolution.

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/42
Sale of internationally controlled licit drugs to individuals via the Internet

The Economic and Social Council,

Recognizing that unauthorized trade in internationally controlled licit drugs ordered via the Internet has reached epidemic proportions,

Strongly suggesting that Member States prohibit the international sale of internationally controlled licit drugs via the Internet and that, when permitted, the sale of such drugs via the Internet within their national borders be strictly regulated, while acknowledging that some Member States already have laws that preclude the sale of internationally controlled substances via the Internet,

[192] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1582, No. 27627.

Aware that the non-prescribed or falsely prescribed use of internationally controlled licit drugs constitutes a serious risk to the public health and that such use is facilitated by the Internet,

Noting that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in its resolution 43/8 of 15 March 2000,[193] encouraged Member States to consider taking measures to prevent the diversion of internationally controlled licit drugs via the Internet,

Noting also that the Secretary-General submitted to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its eleventh session a report on effective measures to prevent and control computer-related crime, in which he recognized the use of online pharmacies to procure internationally controlled licit drugs without medical supervision as an emerging problem for law enforcement, regulatory and health authorities,[194]

Further noting the frequent calls made by the International Narcotics Control Board in 2001, 2002 and 2003 for Governments to take measures to prevent the misuse of the Internet for the illegal offer, sale and distribution of internationally controlled licit drugs,

Recognizing that the procurement of internationally controlled licit drugs over the Internet is illegal in all cases when an international treaty or national legislation is contravened,

Recalling the successes that have been realized in the control of domestic and international diversion of licit pharmaceuticals, pursuant to the provisions of the relevant conventions,

1. *Encourages* Member States to consider new means and strategies to establish avenues of cooperation in order to prohibit the international offering and acquisition by individuals of internationally controlled licit drugs acquired illegally over the Internet;

2. *Calls upon* Member States to enforce, as appropriate, the provisions of article 30 of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961[195] and article 10 of the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971[196] as they apply to pharmacies within their territory, specifically with regard to the need:

(a) To license those that distribute internationally controlled licit drugs via the Internet and to require them to disclose information regarding the identity of the parties responsible and their legal location;

(b) To actively pursue those that are in violation of the importing and exporting provisions of those conventions;

3. *Urges* Member States to develop, as appropriate, well-coordinated and focused policies to identify and take appropriate measures to terminate Internet sites used to offer internationally controlled licit drugs in an unauthorized way, through greater coordination between the judicial, police, postal, customs and other competent agencies;

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[193] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 8* (E/2000/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[194] E/CN.15/2002/8, para. 12.

[195] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, No. 7515.

[196] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.

4. *Encourages* Member States to enact or, where appropriate, to enhance sanctions or penalties for providing internationally controlled licit drugs over the Internet without a valid prescription within their national borders;

5. *Also encourages* Member States to identify those who operate web sites that illegally offer internationally controlled licit drugs by, for example, seeking the cooperation and support of Internet service providers;

6. *Encourages* Member States that do not have laws that preclude trade in internationally controlled licit drugs via the Internet to establish, as appropriate, laws or regulations governing the sale of such drugs via the Internet, with a view to minimizing the risks, including, as a minimum:

(a) The obligation for companies within their national borders offering internationally controlled licit drugs via the Internet to have preliminary operating licences;

(b) The necessity for those companies within their national borders to supply internationally controlled licit drugs via the Internet only to persons who have met all the medical and legal obligations required to obtain such substances;

(c) The prohibition of authorized companies within their national borders from making direct deliveries of internationally controlled licit drugs outside their national borders when such deliveries are made to individual persons or companies not authorized to import such drugs, as opposed to being made to authorized companies in accordance with the relevant international conventions;

(d) The necessity for suppliers to keep records of all acquisitions and deliveries of internationally controlled licit drugs for a period of at least two years, in accordance with the relevant international conventions;

7. *Encourages* the competent national authorities to increase public awareness of the risks associated with the unauthorized acquisition of internationally controlled licit drugs via the Internet, in particular with regard to the uncertain quality of the products and the disadvantage that there is no accompanying medical supervision;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the text of the present resolution to all Member States for consideration.

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/43
Demand for and supply of opiates used to meet medical and scientific needs

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 2003/40 of 22 July 2003 and previous relevant resolutions,

Emphasizing that the need to balance the global licit supply of opiates against the legitimate demand for opiates used to meet medical and scientific needs is central to the international strategy and policy of drug control,

Noting the fundamental need for international cooperation with the traditional and established supplier countries in drug control to ensure the universal application of the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961[197] and that Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[198]

Reiterating that a balance between consumption and production of opiate raw materials was achieved in the past as a result of efforts made by the two traditional supplier countries, India and Turkey, together with other producer countries,

Expressing deep concern at the continued increase in the global production of opiate raw materials and the significant accumulation of stocks over the past few years as a consequence of the operation of market forces, which is causing a mismatch and is now upsetting the delicate balance between the licit supply of and demand for opiates used to meet medical and scientific needs,

Emphasizing the importance of adhering to the estimates furnished to and confirmed by the International Narcotics Control Board on the extent of cultivation and production of opiate raw materials, particularly in view of the current oversupply,

Recalling the Joint Ministerial Statement adopted during the ministerial segment of the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs,[199] in which ministers and other government representatives called upon States to continue to contribute to the maintenance of a balance between the licit supply of and demand for opiate raw materials used for medical and scientific purposes and to cooperate in preventing the proliferation of sources of production of opiate raw materials,

Reiterating the importance of medically appropriate use of opiates in pain relief therapy as advocated by the World Health Organization,

Noting that countries differ significantly in their level of consumption of narcotic drugs and that in most developing countries the use of narcotic drugs for medical purposes has remained at an extremely low level,

1. *Urges* all Governments to continue to contribute to maintaining a balance between the licit supply of and demand for opiate raw materials used to meet medical and scientific needs, the achievement of which would be facilitated by maintaining, insofar as their constitutional and legal systems permit, support to the traditional and established supplier countries, and to cooperate in preventing the proliferation of sources of production of opiate raw materials;

2. *Urges* the Governments of all producer countries to adhere strictly to the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961[200] and that Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol[201] and to take effective measures to

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[197] Ibid., vol. 520, No. 7515.
[198] Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.
[199] A/58/124, chap. II, sect. A.
[200] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, No. 7515.
[201] Ibid., vol. 976, No. 14152.

prevent the illicit production or diversion of opiate raw materials to illicit channels, especially when increasing licit production, invites the relevant Governments to contribute to the study being carried out by the International Narcotics Control Board on the relative merits of different methods of producing opiate raw materials, and encourages producer countries to adopt best practices in the cultivation and production of opiate raw materials;

3. *Urges* Governments of consumer countries to assess their licit needs for opiate raw materials realistically and to communicate those needs to the International Narcotics Control Board in order to ensure easy supply, and calls upon all Governments of countries producing opium poppy to limit the cultivation of opium poppy, taking into account the current level of global stocks, to the estimates furnished to and confirmed by the Board, in accordance with the requirements of the 1961 Convention, and, calls upon producer countries, in providing estimates of such cultivation, to consider the specific demand requirements of consumer countries;

4. *Urges* the Governments of all countries where, in the past, opium poppy has not been cultivated for the licit production of opiate raw materials, in the spirit of collective responsibility, to refrain from engaging in the commercial cultivation of opium poppy, in order to avoid the proliferation of supply sites;

5. *Commends* the International Narcotics Control Board for its efforts in monitoring the implementation of the relevant Economic and Social Council resolutions and, in particular:

(a) In urging the Governments concerned to adjust global production of opiate raw materials to a level corresponding to actual licit needs and to avoid unforeseen imbalances between the licit supply of and demand for opiates caused by the exportation of products manufactured from seized and confiscated drugs;

(b) In inviting the Governments concerned to ensure that opiates imported into their countries for medical and scientific use do not originate in countries that transform seized and confiscated drugs into licit opiates;

(c) In arranging informal meetings, during sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, with the main States that import and produce opiate raw materials;

6. *Requests* the International Narcotics Control Board to continue its efforts in monitoring the implementation of the relevant Economic and Social Council resolutions in full compliance with the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 and with that Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the text of the present resolution to all Governments for consideration and implementation and to report on the implementation of the resolution to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its forty-eighth session.

47th plenary meeting
21 July 2004

2004/44

Role of the Economic and Social Council in the integrated and coordinated implementation of the outcomes of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its agreed conclusions 1995/1[202] and 2002/1[203] and its relevant resolutions on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits,

Recalling also General Assembly resolutions 50/227 of 24 May 1996, 52/12 B of 19 December 1997 and 57/270 B of 23 June 2003,

Recalling further the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration,[204] and the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits and the reviews of their implementation in the economic, social and related fields,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the role of the Economic and Social Council in the integrated and coordinated implementation of the outcomes of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits,[205]

1. *Decides* to continue to take the necessary steps for the effective implementation of the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 50/227, 52/12 B and 57/270 B, which are relevant to the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary machinery;

2. *Welcomes* General Assembly resolution 58/291 of 6 May 2004 on follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit and integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields, and decides to contribute to the overall preparation for the high-level plenary meeting of the Assembly in 2005, in accordance with the modalities to be set out by the Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

3. *Requests*, in this regard, the functional commissions, the regional commissions and other relevant subsidiary bodies to contribute to the preparation of the input of the Economic and Social Council to the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly;

4. *Requests* the functional commissions and other relevant subsidiary bodies to continue to examine their methods of work, as mandated in General Assembly resolution 57/270 B, in order better to pursue the implementation of the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits, and to submit their reports to the Council in 2005;

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[202] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/50/3/Rev.1), chap. III, para. 22.

[203] Ibid., *Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/57/3/Rev.1), chap. V, para. 9.

[204] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

[205] E/2004/71.

5. *Decides* to revise the title of agenda item 8 to read "Implementation of General Assembly resolutions 50/227, 52/12 B and 57/270 B" at the next substantive session of the Council in 2005;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the role of the Economic and Social Council in the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 50/227, 52/12 B and 57/270 B for consideration by the Council at its substantive session in 2005.

48th plenary meeting
22 July 2004

2004/45
San Juan resolution on productive development in open economies

The Economic and Social Council,

Bearing in mind resolution 595 (XXIX), adopted by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean at its twenty-ninth session,[206] in which it urged the secretariat to analyse the relationship existing between the liberalization agendas of the countries of the region and the associated productive development policies including, in particular, their links with trade, national and international financing and social and environmental issues, in order to ensure that those policies take into account the interests of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean,

Recognizing that progress has been made in the gradual dissemination of economic and social reforms in countries of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean region but that this has not been manifested in high, stable rates of growth that would create the necessary conditions to provide the individual and shared resources that would meet the inherent need for economic, social and cultural rights, as is emphasized, in particular, in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[207]

Noting that the emergence of signs of growing interdependence among countries of the region in a number of areas, such as trade, international finance and the environment, opens up new opportunities but also hinders national authorities' policy-making autonomy,

Aware of the profound processes of productive, trade and financial restructuring now taking place worldwide, with the active participation of transnational corporations at the helm of internationally integrated production systems into which some countries of the region are being incorporated,

Observing that the expansion of trade has not resulted in rapid worldwide economic growth, that the inflow of capital to the region, including foreign direct investment, has declined and that this has been a factor in widening the gap in knowledge and technological innovation between the region and the industrialized countries,

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[206] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 20* (E/2002/40), chap. IV, sect. D.

[207] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

Noting that a trend towards income disparities across countries of the region persists; that, within those countries, the low density of the processes involved in changing production patterns has exacerbated the heterogeneity of the production structure, with some sectors displaying differing patterns; and that, through their impact on the composition and quality of employment, those sectors have an influence on the disparity among households' levels of well-being,

Underlining, in sum, that the current phase of access to international markets offers a range of opportunities for productive development, some of which have been fully utilized by some sectors in developing countries, but that it also has negative consequences owing to the structural change required to adapt to changing conditions in terms of competitiveness,

Underlining also the tradition and vitality of subregional integration schemes and the potential for deepening them within a framework of open regionalism, along with the rich pool of regional institutions present in Latin America and the Caribbean,

Aware of the various means demonstrated by countries of the region of expanding their trade both within and outside the region and the difficult conditions under which they attract financial resources, including resources in the form of foreign direct investment, and the fact that in many cases the procyclical behaviour of capital flows to the region has led to unsustainable indebtedness,

Highlighting the progress achieved by many countries of the region in the area of macroeconomic management, especially with regard to the control of public finances and inflation; the strides made towards a more effective incorporation of the sustainable development agenda; the expansion, in many cases, of public expenditure on education, which has made it possible to increase the coverage of basic and intermediate education and to launch activities aimed at giving the population access to computerized information networks and audio-visual media; the efforts being devoted to making the labour market more adaptable by introducing new worker training arrangements and unemployment insurance; the participation of the private sector in the modernization of various infrastructure sectors and in interacting with the public sector to develop innovative approaches in the area of social security; and the fact that, nonetheless, efforts should be made to place greater emphasis on devoting attention to the difficulties that the implementation of pension reforms has raised in some countries,

Observing that obstacles to the process of changing production patterns with social equity and environmental sustainability in the region persist; that poverty levels regrettably persist; that economic growth has been insufficient and volatile; that the increase in productivity has not narrowed the gap with the developed world; that the linkages of export activities and foreign direct investment with other economic activities remain insufficient; that institutions for sustainable development have few instruments and scant resources at their disposal; that the insufficient creation of quality jobs continues to impede a reduction in open unemployment and informal employment; that the educational gap with the developed world persists in terms of both coverage (secondary and higher education) and learning outcomes; and that increased demands are being made for social security systems to cover traditional risks (health care, old age and illness) and new risks associated with the increased employment and income vulnerability,

1. *Welcomes* the document prepared by the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, entitled "Productive development in open economies", considering that, thanks to the concepts it explores, the information it contains and the proposals it sets forth regarding international linkages, productive development and social vulnerability, it makes a significant contribution to the current phase of trade liberalization, levels of competitiveness and development of labour markets, education and training;

2. *Welcomes* the proactive agenda proposed by the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean for meeting the challenges posed by the current phase of the productive development process, in particular the reaffirmation of national strategies for improving linkages with the world economy as pillars of the process of strengthening competitiveness; the region's potential contribution to building cohesive societies that can mitigate social vulnerability and give the countries greater room for manoeuvre in restructuring production systems; and the stress laid on the importance of an integral approach in which macroeconomic solvency is consistent with productive development and social cohesion policies;

3. *Requests* the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to ensure the wide dissemination of the document entitled "Productive development in open economies" and to encourage its consideration in the following areas:

(i) Political, social, academic and business spheres and civil-society organizations in the region, through national, subregional and regional dialogues on the chief components of the proposed agenda;

(ii) International organizations dealing with the various dimensions of economic development, with a view, in particular, to fostering an exchange of ideas regarding proposals for correcting asymmetries and gaps in the international agenda, especially with the International Labour Organization in relation to employment and social cohesion policies and the creation of decent jobs for a just form of globalization;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to undertake a more in-depth analysis of the following issues:

(i) Education, science and technology, highlighting the development of national and regional innovation systems that unite the efforts of the public and private sectors;

(ii) Social protection and active labour-market policies aimed at achieving complementarity between public and private mechanisms in order to broaden coverage and adopt solidarity-based approaches, as part of a major effort to enhance social cohesion;

(iii) Countercyclical macroeconomic management, adding national, subregional and regional measures to complement the changes required at the international level;

(iv) Production linkages, defining policies for developing and deepening them and for forming production clusters;

(v) Sustainable development and competitiveness, devoting special attention to the economic valuation of environmental goods and services and to the improvement of their market access conditions;

(vi) Financing for development, placing special emphasis on: the financial development needed to replace intermediation systems dominated by banks with systems that include large capital markets; strengthening of development banks with a view to promoting the institutional changes needed to capture and extend long-term financing and to design risk management instruments to give different types of enterprises easier access to financing; reliance on subregional financial institutions to provide countercyclical financing, correct situations of illiquidity and support investment programmes for sustainable development; and the role of infrastructure in productive development and competitiveness;

(vii) Trade integration and development, paying special attention to trade in agricultural goods and access to markets that can enable the region's economies to capitalize on their competitive advantages and use appropriate technology;

5. *Calls upon* the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to pursue its examination of the development strategies of the Latin American and Caribbean countries in the context of globalization, based on an integrated approach to economic, social and environmental issues which also incorporates gender analysis, and to identify the measures that should be adopted at the national, regional and international levels.

48th plenary meeting
22 July 2004

2004/46
Support for the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling resolution 503 (XXIII), adopted by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in 1990, on support for Haiti,[208]

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 57/337 of 3 July 2003 on the prevention of armed conflict, and in particular the role assigned to the Council in that connection,

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 1542 (2004) of 30 April 2004, in which the Council decided to establish the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti and considered its various aspects, including the promotion of the social and economic development of Haiti and the need to design a long-term development strategy to that effect,

[208] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1990, Supplement No. 14* (E/1990/43), chap. III, sect. D.

Bearing in mind also that Security Council resolution 1542 (2004) underscores the need for Member States, in particular those in the region, and United Nations bodies, among other actors, to provide appropriate support for these actions,

Highlighting the role that the Council can play in a long-term programme of support for Haiti,

Highlighting also the fact that these economic and social efforts will make an important contribution to the longer-term peace and security objectives of the Mission, which are currently the most immediate priority on the ground,

Considering the content of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010,[209]

1. *Welcomes* the commitments undertaken by the countries of the region in connection with the efforts towards the reconstruction of Haiti;

2. *Trusts* that these commitments will be extended to all the spheres envisaged in the mandate of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti, with special emphasis on economic and social development, in accordance with the spirit of Security Council resolution 1542 (2004);

3. *Requests* the secretariat of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to support the countries of the region in the context of this effort, in full cooperation with the transitional Government of Haiti and in close coordination with the Mission, with a view to optimizing the actions they seek to carry out under the Mission's terms of reference;

4. *Instructs* the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to evaluate, in coordination with the transitional Government of Haiti, the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Mission, the timing and modalities of such collaboration;

5. *Expresses its satisfaction* with the assistance being provided by the Governments participating in the Mission, and urges other Governments in the region, to the extent of their abilities, to join in this manifestation of solidarity.

48th plenary meeting
22 July 2004

2004/47
Place of the next session of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

The Economic and Social Council,

Bearing in mind paragraph 15 of the terms of reference and rules 1 and 2 of the rules of procedure of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

Considering the invitation of the Government of the Eastern Republic of Uruguay to host the thirty-first session of the Commission,

[209] A/CONF.191/11.

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Government of the Eastern Republic of Uruguay for its generous invitation;

2. *Notes* the acceptance by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean of this invitation with pleasure;

3. *Endorses* the decision of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to hold the thirty-first session of the Commission in the Eastern Republic of Uruguay in 2006.

48th plenary meeting
22 July 2004

2004/48
Coordinated and integrated United Nations system approach to promoting rural development in developing countries, with due consideration to least developed countries, for poverty eradication and sustainable development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its decision 2003/287 of 24 July 2003, in which it decided to consider, during its coordination segment in 2004, the theme "Coordinated and integrated United Nations system approach to promoting rural development in developing countries, with due consideration to least developed countries, for poverty eradication and sustainable development",

Reaffirming the Ministerial Declaration of the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council adopted in July 2003,[210]

Recalling the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration,[211] and the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences, summits and relevant special sessions of the General Assembly,

Recalling also the Declaration of the World Food Summit: five years later, adopted in Rome on 13 June 2002,[212]

Reaffirming the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010,[213]

Reiterating that the eradication of rural poverty and hunger is crucial for the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, and that rural development should be pursued through an integrated approach, which encompasses the economic, social and environmental dimensions, takes into account the gender perspective and consists of mutually reinforcing policies and programmes, and which should be balanced,

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[210] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/58/3), part one, chap. III, para. 35.

[211] General Assembly resolution 55/2.

[212] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the World Food Summit: five years later, 10-13 June 2002*, part one, appendix; see also A/57/499, annex.

[213] A/CONF.191/11.

targeted, situation specific, locally owned, include local synergies and initiatives and be responsive to the needs of rural populations,

Recognizing that rural development is the responsibility of each country and is predicated on an enabling national environment, and reaffirming that an enabling international economic environment is important for the support of effective national development efforts, including rural development efforts, that it should combine effective and coherent policies, good governance and accountable institutions at the national and international levels as well as the promotion of gender equality and the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, and that robust, broad-based and equitable economic growth as well as human resources development are needed to fight rural poverty,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on a coordinated and integrated United Nations system approach to promote rural development in developing countries, with due consideration to least developed countries, for poverty eradication and sustainable development;[214]

2. *Notes* the efforts made by United Nations organizations to assist developing countries, upon their request, in integrating rural development into their national development strategies, urges them to promote further the integration of this approach into their operational and other activities to enhance further the efficiency of resources utilization and to continue to work, within their mandates, to this end and, in this regard, emphasizes the need for relevant United Nations agencies to be provided with appropriate resources to promote integrated rural development;

3. *Calls* for enhanced coordination and cooperation among the agencies of the United Nations system, including among the Rome-based agencies, especially at the country level, on the basis of the common country assessment and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, in support of national development strategies as well as in enhancing their cooperation with the World Bank and the regional development banks;

4. *Acknowledges* the recent increase in official development assistance allocations to rural development and agriculture, urges developed countries that have not done so to make concrete efforts towards the target of providing 0.7 per cent of their gross national product as official development assistance to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of their gross national product to the least developed countries, as reconfirmed at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, encourages developing countries to build on progress achieved in ensuring that official development assistance is used effectively to help achieve development goals and targets, acknowledges the efforts of all donors, commends those donors whose official development assistance contributions exceed, reach or are increasing towards the targets, and underlines the importance of undertaking an examination of the means and time frames for achieving the targets and goals;

5. *Invites* the international and regional financial institutions to continue to enhance their support for national efforts for poverty eradication and rural

[214] E/2004/58.

development in developing countries, including the mobilization of public and private investment as well as improved access to credit for the development of rural infrastructure in order to enhance productivity and increase access to markets and information, calls for actions to facilitate the establishment and strengthening of rural financial institutions, including microcredit/microfinancing, savings and insurance facilities and cooperative ventures for rural development, as well as the development of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, and in this regard underlines the importance of the International Year of Microcredit (2005) as a platform to promote these goals;

6. *Recognizes* that, despite serious efforts to achieve progress, important issues in the implementation of the Doha Ministerial Declaration of the World Trade Organization[215] are still outstanding, in particular regarding the commitments for, inter alia, comprehensive negotiations aimed at substantial improvements in market access; that in the agricultural sector, without prejudging the outcome of negotiations, reductions of, with a view to phasing out, all forms of export subsidies, substantial reduction in trade-distorting domestic support and enhanced market access are needed; that special and differential treatment for developing countries shall be an integral part of all elements of the negotiations, taking development needs fully into account, in a manner consistent with the Doha mandate, including food security and rural development; and that non-trade concerns of countries will also be taken into account, as provided for in the Agreement on Agriculture, in accordance with paragraph 13 of the Doha Ministerial Declaration, and urges the United Nations system, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to provide further trade-related technical assistance and capacity-building for developing countries, in particular the least developed countries;

7. *Also recognizes* the vulnerability of the commodity-dependent developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, to market fluctuations, and calls on the United Nations system to support their efforts towards diversification of exports and value-added through processing as a means of increasing export earnings, including through support to enable developing countries to put in place measures that are appropriate and necessary for meeting standards consistent with the provisions of the World Trade Organization and improving terms of trade, and to address the impact of the instability of commodity prices;

8. *Stresses* the need to enhance and expand access by developing countries to appropriate technologies that are pro-poor and raise productivity, underlines the need for measures to increase investment in agricultural research, including modern technologies, as well as in natural resources management and capacity-building, and encourages the United Nations system to strengthen support for the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research;

9. *Reaffirms* that sustainable agriculture and rural development are essential to the implementation of an integrated approach to food security and safety in an environmentally sustainable way, recognizes the important role of the rural population in sustainably managing natural resources, and calls for enhanced

[215] A/C.2/56/7, annex.

coordination and cooperation among the agencies of the United Nations system in supporting national efforts to promote environmentally sound and sustainable natural resources management;

10. *Also reaffirms* the need to improve access to reliable, affordable, economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound energy services and resources, taking into account national specificities and circumstances, through various means, such as enhanced rural electrification and decentralized energy systems, increased use of renewables, cleaner liquid and gaseous fuels and enhanced energy efficiency, as well as by intensifying regional and international cooperation and enhancing coordination and cooperation among agencies of the United Nations system in support of national efforts, including through capacity-building, financial and technological assistance and innovative financing mechanisms, inter alia at the micro- and meso-levels, recognizing the specific factors for providing access to the poor;

11. *Expresses its serious concern* regarding the severe food shortages and hunger facing millions of people, especially in Africa, recognizes that food security is a global concern and stresses the importance of improving famine prevention mechanisms and long-term food security, as well as of responding to emergency food aid needs;

12. *Invites* the United Nations system to further support the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa[216] and to address the causes of desertification and land degradation in order to maintain and restore land, as well as addressing poverty resulting from land degradation;

13. *Realizes* that bridging the digital divide will require strong commitment by all stakeholders at the national and international levels, and encourages all efforts by United Nations agencies, funds and programmes to assist developing countries in overcoming the digital divide and promoting the use of information and communication technologies to foster economic and social development, particularly in rural areas;

14. *Recognizes* the devastating impact of HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases on societies and calls for measures by United Nations bodies, especially the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS co-sponsoring agencies, and development partners to further mainstream HIV/AIDS concerns into rural development planning, including poverty eradication and food security strategies and multisectoral development activities covering economic and social aspects, including the gender perspective;

15. *Invites* the relevant United Nations organizations dealing with issues of development to strengthen their cooperation in addressing and supporting the empowerment and the specific needs of rural women in their programmes and strategies;

16. *Stresses* that the United Nations system should improve its coordination in supporting national efforts to increase the school enrolment rate, especially of the girl child, and to provide quality education for the rural poor, inter alia, through mobilizing the necessary financial and technical resources, including the full

[216] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

utilization of modern methodologies and technologies as well as the establishment of distance learning education systems;

17. *Recognizes* the importance of employment for pro-poor growth in rural areas, and encourages the United Nations system and development partners to assist countries, upon their request, in mainstreaming employment into investment policy and poverty reduction strategies, including those focused on rural area development;

18. *Invites* the United Nations system to further assist developing countries in their efforts to enhance access by the rural poor to productive assets, especially land and water, in order to promote social and economic development;

19. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to further support capacity-building programmes for, and exchanges of experience on, rural development through enhanced coordination and information exchange mechanisms such as the United Nations System Network on Rural Development and Food Security;

20. *Stresses* that the United Nations system should further support regional and subregional initiatives, where appropriate, in order to promote an integrated approach to rural development, and requests the United Nations regional commissions to further enhance regional and interregional cooperation, in particular for sharing best practices;

21. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and regional organizations to undertake measures to further promote South-South cooperation, including triangular cooperation, in the area of rural development, and in this regard underlines the need for increased cooperation among bodies of the United Nations system to promote South-South cooperation;

22. *Notes* the work of the United Nations system on partnerships, welcomes the establishment of a multitude of partnerships for sustainable rural development at the field level entered into by various United Nations agencies, Member States, the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society in general, and encourages the United Nations system to continue to promote partnerships at the national and international levels in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolutions.

50th plenary meeting
23 July 2004

2004/49
United Nations Public-Private Alliance for Rural Development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its 2003 ministerial declaration,[217] which underlined the importance of alliances and partnerships among actors in different sectors for the promotion of integrated rural development,

[217] See A/58/3 (Part I), chap. III, para. 35. The entire report will be issued in final form as *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/58/3).

Underlining the importance of the contribution of the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society in general to the implementation of the outcomes of United Nations conferences in the economic, social and related fields,

Recalling the central role and responsibility of Governments in national and international policy-making,

Bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 58/129 of 19 December 2003, entitled "Towards global partnerships", in which the Assembly inter alia identified the principles and objectives of such partnerships and welcomed the establishment of a multitude of partnerships at the field level, entered into by various United Nations organizations, Member States and other stakeholders, such as the United Nations Public-Private Alliance for Rural Development (the United Nations Alliance),

1. *Welcomes* the initiative of the Government of Madagascar to serve as the pilot country for the United Nations Public-Private Alliance for Rural Development (the United Nations Alliance);

2. *Invites* all Member States, the funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations system, the Bretton Woods institutions, civil society, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders to support the programmes and activities of the United Nations Alliance in its mission to promote sustainable rural development, consistent with General Assembly resolution 58/129 of 19 December 2003 and other relevant resolutions and decisions of the Assembly and the Economic and Social Council;

3. *Stresses* that activities of the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system at the country level in support of the United Nations Alliance should take into account the implementation of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2006 on the work of the United Nations Alliance.

50th plenary meeting
23 July 2004

2004/50
Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991, recalling that humanitarian assistance should be provided in accordance with and with due respect for the guiding principles contained in the annex to that resolution, and recalling also other relevant resolutions of the Assembly and resolutions and agreed conclusions of the Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 2003/5 of 15 July 2003 and General Assembly resolution 58/114 of 17 December 2003,

Welcoming the fact that at the humanitarian affairs segment of 2004 the Council considered the theme "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian assistance of the United Nations: present and future challenges" and that the Economic and Social Council held two panels, on "Strengthening preparedness and response to natural disasters, with an emphasis on capacity-building" and "Field-level coordination for the purpose of continuing the presence and operation of United Nations humanitarian assistance missions in higher-risk environments",

Recognizing that the affected State has the primary role in the initiation, organization, coordination and implementation of humanitarian assistance within its territory and in the facilitation of the work of humanitarian organizations,

Emphasizing the importance of continued international cooperation in support of the efforts of affected States in dealing with natural disasters and complex emergencies in all their phases, and recognizing that the magnitude and duration of many emergencies may be beyond the response capacity of many affected countries,

Reaffirming that humanitarian assistance is of cardinal importance for the victims of natural disasters and other emergencies,

Reaffirming also the importance of the principles of neutrality, humanity and impartiality for the provision of humanitarian assistance,

Reaffirming further that independence, meaning the autonomy of humanitarian objectives from the political, economic, military or other objectives that any actor may hold with regard to areas where humanitarian action is being implemented, is also an important guiding principle for the provision of humanitarian assistance, and should be applied in full respect for and compliance with international humanitarian law,

Welcoming positive developments towards the resolution of some long-standing complex emergencies, while remaining deeply concerned about the outbreak of new complex emergencies and the protracted nature of other complex emergencies,

Noting the increase in the number and nature of organizations engaged in humanitarian action and mindful of the need to ensure that this multiplication of actors does not detract from the effectiveness of the humanitarian response and the neutrality and independence of humanitarian assistance,

Expressing profound regret and grave concern at the tragic loss of the lives of humanitarian staff while providing humanitarian assistance and the increased insecurity encountered by humanitarian staff as well as the acts of violence committed against them, in particular deliberate attacks, and mindful of the need to provide the fullest possible protection for their security and, in this regard, bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 58/122 of 17 December 2003 and Security Council resolution 1502 (2003) of 26 August 2003,

Gravely concerned that, in some of the world's current complex emergencies, access by humanitarian agencies to affected civilian populations remains limited, sporadic and sometimes restricted,

Bearing in mind that success in peace negotiation, among other processes, could lead to a significant increase in voluntary repatriation of refugees and in the possible reintegration of internally displaced persons, and expressing its belief that

the United Nations system should give due consideration to these developments in the planning of its response,

Noting with grave concern the growing intensity and recurrence of natural disasters and reaffirming the importance of sustainable measures to reduce the vulnerability of societies to natural hazards using an integrated, multi-hazard and participatory approach to addressing vulnerability, risk assessment and disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery,

Noting the grave humanitarian and development implications of the HIV/AIDS pandemic and other widespread major infectious diseases prevalent in humanitarian contexts, such as malaria, tuberculosis and cholera, for the affected countries,

Gravely concerned that violence, including sexual abuse and sexual and other violence against women, girls and boys, continues to be, in many emergency situations, deliberately directed against civilian populations, and reiterating that acts of sexual violence in situations of armed conflict can constitute serious violations or grave breaches of international humanitarian law and constitute, in defined circumstances, a crime against humanity and/or a war crime, and recalling the relevant provisions of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[218]

Reiterating that humanitarian assistance should be provided in a way that is not to the detriment of resources made available for international cooperation for development,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;[219]

2. *Calls upon* all parties to armed conflicts to comply with their obligations under international humanitarian law, human rights law and refugee law;

3. *Reaffirms* the obligation of all States and parties to armed conflict to protect civilians in armed conflicts in accordance with international humanitarian law, and invites States to promote a culture of protection, taking into account the particular needs of women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities;

4. *Notes* that some of the issues affecting the protection of civilians in armed conflict could also be effectively addressed at a regional level, and welcomes in this context the fact that States and some regional organizations, within their mandates, have increasingly taken measures to address these and related protection concerns;

5. *Strongly encourages* the United Nations to address more systematically the protection of civilians and other humanitarian issues with regional organizations, in accordance with their respective mandates, inter alia through continued dialogue;

6. *Calls* for enhanced collaboration within the United Nations system and among various United Nations bodies, including the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, within their respective mandates, in the area of the protection of civilians in armed conflict;

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[218] *Official Records of the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court, Rome, 15 June-17 July 1998*, vol. I: *Final documents* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.I.5), sect. A.

[219] A/59/93-E/2004/74.

7. *Calls upon* States to comply fully with the provisions of international humanitarian law, in particular as provided in the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the protection of victims of war,[220] in order to protect and assist civilians in occupied territories;

8. *Urges* the international community and the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, in this regard, to strengthen humanitarian and other assistance to civilians under foreign occupation;

9. *Calls upon* all Governments and parties in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations, in countries in which humanitarian personnel are operating, in conformity with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, to cooperate fully with the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies and organizations and to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel, as well as supplies and equipment, in order to allow them to perform efficiently their task of assisting the affected civilian population, including refugees and internally displaced persons;

10. *Strongly urges* all States to take the necessary measures to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel;

11. *Also strongly urges* States to ensure that those responsible for attacks against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel are promptly brought to justice, as provided by national law and obligations under international law, and notes the need for States to end impunity for such acts;

12. *Mindful* of the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General on measures to further improve the United Nations security management system, stresses the importance of continued collaboration among all parts of the United Nations system on staff safety and security issues;

13. *Encourages* United Nations organizations and other humanitarian actors to address security risks posed to humanitarian staff, inter alia by promoting accountability at all levels and by promoting and enhancing collaborative actions, in accordance with the relevant provisions of international humanitarian law and national laws, where applicable;

14. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring that humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel remain sensitive to national and local customs and traditions in their countries of assignment, communicate better their purpose and objectives to local populations and observe and respect the laws of the country in which they are operating, in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations;

15. *Takes note with appreciation* of the continued efforts of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to strengthen the coordination of United Nations humanitarian assistance;

16. *Encourages* the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to continue engaging in dialogue with States on humanitarian assistance, including through the Economic and Social Council, in order to enhance its coordinating role for all United Nations humanitarian activities with a view to enhancing

[220] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.

comprehensive intergovernmental support and guidance to the United Nations system;

17. *Supports* the efforts of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to ensure that the design and implementation of United Nations integrated missions take into account the principles of neutrality, humanity and impartiality as well as the independence of humanitarian objectives for the provision of humanitarian assistance;

18. *Encourages* the United Nations Secretariat, in strengthening the coordination of humanitarian work and assistance, to engage in a dialogue with States and United Nations humanitarian entities to clarify the respective roles of and complementarity among relevant entities of the United Nations operating in the framework of United Nations multidimensional missions, invites the Secretariat to consult with relevant humanitarian organizations in that regard and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council;

19. *Reaffirms* the leading role of civilian organizations in implementing humanitarian assistance, particularly in areas affected by conflicts, and also affirms the need, in situations where military capacity and assets are used to support the implementation of humanitarian assistance, for their use to be in conformity with international humanitarian law and humanitarian principles;

20. *Encourages* United Nations humanitarian organizations and other relevant United Nations entities to carry out jointly an in-depth examination of the extent to which current developments in international peace and security have affected the understanding and acceptance of the United Nations humanitarian organizations by local populations, as well as the understanding and acceptance of other humanitarian organizations, and the ability of humanitarian organizations to operate in the context of an international military presence, and to provide advice to these organizations on how they may respond better to these new developments;

21. *Bearing in mind* the 2003 Guidelines on the Use of Military and Civil Defence Assets to Support United Nations Humanitarian Activities in Complex Emergencies[221] and the 1994 Guidelines on the Use of Military and Civil Defence Assets in Disaster Relief,[222] stresses the value of their use and of the development by the United Nations in consultation with States and other relevant actors of further guidance on civil-military relations in the context of humanitarian activities and transition situations;

22. *Encourages* the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in close collaboration with the United Nations Development Group Office to improve further the training and capacity of Humanitarian and Resident Coordinators so that they can respond to the full range of humanitarian issues in a given context, including protection and assistance needs;

23. *Encourages* the channelling of increased resources to capacity-building activities in disaster-prone areas, particularly to address the dynamics and disproportionate risks that natural disasters pose in urban and rural environments;

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[221] Available from http://www.reliefweb.int/w/rwb.nsf.

[222] Department of Humanitarian Affairs, document DHA/94/95.

24. *Emphasizes* the importance of building effective and inclusive partnerships, including in risk planning, with populations that live in disaster-prone and disaster-affected areas;

25. *Recalls* General Assembly resolution 57/150 of 16 December 2002 on strengthening the effectiveness and coordination of international urban search and rescue assistance, and welcomes the work that is being undertaken to further strengthen the effectiveness and coordination of international urban search and rescue assistance;

26. *Invites* States, as appropriate, to give priority to and fully integrate disaster risk reduction strategies into all relevant legal, policy and planning instruments in order to address the social, economic and environmental dimensions that influence vulnerability to natural hazards, bearing in mind the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;

27. *Recommends* that the General Assembly raise the maximum limit for an emergency cash grant to 100,000 United States dollars per country in the case of any one disaster, from within existing resources available in the regular budget;

28. *Strongly encourages* States, relevant agencies and institutions as well as major groups as identified in Agenda 21[223] to participate in the World Conference on Disaster Reduction, in accordance with the rules of procedure agreed upon by the Preparatory Committee for the Conference, and invites them to contribute inputs to the ongoing preparations for the Conference, to be held from 18 to 22 January 2005 in Kobe, Hyogo, Japan, and to ensure that the opportunity is used to reaffirm and strengthen disaster reduction policy and its implementation at all levels;

29. *Encourages* States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations, adopted at Tampere, Finland, on 18 June 1998;

30. *Emphasizes* the importance of integrating further HIV/AIDS responses into the planning, programming and implementation of humanitarian action by ensuring linkages between humanitarian, development and HIV/AIDS mechanisms and activities and by using the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Guidelines on HIV/AIDS Interventions in Emergency Settings, and encourages the United Nations system to improve its guidance to ensure a comprehensive approach of prevention, care and treatment in the context of humanitarian action;

31. *Recognizes* the important role of humanitarian agencies in addressing other major infectious diseases, such as malaria, tuberculosis and cholera, in emergencies, and urges them to factor considerations pertaining to these major infectious diseases into their planning and coordination efforts, including in the areas of early warning and contingency planning;

32. *Stresses* the continued need and relevance of integrating, through implementation of all relevant resolutions, agreed conclusions, policies, commitments and guidelines on gender mainstreaming, a gender perspective into the planning, programming and implementation of humanitarian assistance activities,

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[223] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

and calls upon the Inter-Agency Standing Committee to undertake a review of its 1999 policy statement on the integration of a gender perspective into humanitarian assistance;

33. *Strongly condemns* all violence committed in situations of humanitarian crisis, especially against women, girls and boys, including sexual violence and abuse, and calls upon States to adopt preventive measures and effective responses to these acts as well as to ensure that those responsible for these acts are promptly brought to justice, as provided for by national law and obligations under international law;

34. *Invites* the United Nations organizations to enhance geographical balance in terms of humanitarian personnel employed by them, in a manner consistent with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations;

35. *Encourages* humanitarian agencies to ensure, to the extent possible, the participation and perspective of all those affected by humanitarian situations, both at local and at national levels, in the design, implementation and evaluation of humanitarian assistance activities, while respecting the role of authorities of affected countries;

36. *Encourages* the United Nations system to continue to develop and implement internal tools and to take effective measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and, in this respect, notes with interest the Secretary-General's Bulletin on special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and sexual abuse;[224]

37. *Encourages* Governments as well as international humanitarian organizations, as appropriate, to take further initiatives to prevent, address and follow up on allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse in humanitarian emergencies, and emphasizes that the highest standards of conduct and accountability are required of all personnel serving in humanitarian and peacekeeping operations;

38. *Encourages*, in this regard, the United Nations system and its Member States to urge international humanitarian organizations and implementing partners serving within the framework of United Nations humanitarian and other relevant operations to live up to the highest standards of conduct and accountability;

39. *Encourages* Member States with internally displaced persons to develop or strengthen, as appropriate, national laws, policies and minimum standards on internal displacement, inter alia, taking into account the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement,[225] and to continue to work with humanitarian agencies in endeavours to provide a more predictable response to the needs of internally displaced persons, and in this regard calls for international support, upon request, to capacity-building efforts of Governments;

40. *Calls upon* the relevant United Nations entities, under the coordination mandate of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, to improve the

[224] ST/SGB/2003/13.

[225] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

development of common needs assessments and work towards more effective prioritization, including reviewing the Consolidated Appeals Process Needs Assessment Framework and Matrix;

41. *Encourages* the donor community to provide humanitarian assistance in proportion to needs and on the basis of needs assessments, with a view to ensuring a more equitable distribution of humanitarian assistance across humanitarian emergencies, including those of a protracted nature, as well as fuller coverage of the needs of all sectors, and to this end requests the United Nations organizations, including, through the United Nations country teams, to continue developing and applying transparent needs assessment mechanisms;

42. *Also encourages* the donor community to establish reliable, predictable and timely funding to meet humanitarian needs, and to consider increasing the flexibility of funding and the share of non-earmarked contributions to United Nations organizations in response to humanitarian emergencies, including within the consolidated appeals, and notes with interest the progress being made by donors in improving their policies and practices of good donorship, inter alia under the Good Humanitarian Donorship initiative;

43. *Emphasizes* the need for a more inclusive dialogue with States on the complex issue of transition from relief to development, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, taking into account the range of views expressed by States at the Council's event to discuss the issue of transition from relief to development, held during its substantive session of 2004, and with the participation of United Nations entities, including the United Nations Development Group and the Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs, with the aim of improving the international community's efforts to respond better to transition situations, in support of the efforts of affected States, bearing in mind the uniqueness of each transition situation;

44. *Welcomes* the collaborative effort of the United Nations and the World Bank on the development and implementation of post-emergency programming tools and needs assessment with the full participation of affected States, and underlines the need for further work to enhance coordination;

45. *Encourages* States to support, including through the allocation of funds, the development and implementation of the 4Rs ("repatriation, reintegration, rehabilitation and reconstruction") and of other programming tools, to facilitate the transition from relief to development;

46. *Requests* the Secretary-General to reflect the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the present resolution and to Economic and Social Council resolutions 2002/32 of 26 July 2002 and 2003/5 of 15 July 2003 in his next report to the Council and the General Assembly on the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations.

50th plenary meeting
23 July 2004

2004/51
The need to harmonize and improve United Nations informatics systems for optimal utilization and accessibility by all States

The Economic and Social Council,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General on international cooperation in the field of informatics[226] and the initiatives of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Informatics,

Recognizing the interest of Member States in taking full advantage of information and communication technologies for the acceleration of economic and social development,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the need to harmonize and improve United Nations information systems for optimal utilization and access by all States, with due regard to all official languages,

Welcoming the intensification of efforts by the Information Technology Services Division of the Department of Management of the Secretariat to provide interconnectivity and unhindered Internet access to all Permanent and Observer Missions at the United Nations,

1. *Reiterates once again* the high priority that it attaches to easy, economical, uncomplicated and unhindered access for States Members and Observers of the United Nations, as well as non-governmental organizations accredited to the United Nations, to the computerized databases and information systems and services of the United Nations, provided that the unhindered access of non-governmental organizations to such databases, systems and services will not prejudice the access of Member States nor impose an additional financial burden for their use;

2. *Requests* the President of the Economic and Social Council to convene the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Informatics for one more year to enable it to carry out, from within existing resources, the due fulfilment of the provisions of the Council resolutions on this item, to facilitate the successful implementation of the initiatives being taken by the Secretary-General with regard to the use of information technology and to continue the implementation of measures required to achieve its objectives and, in this regard, requests the Working Group to continue its efforts to act as a bridge between the evolving needs of Member States and the actions of the Secretariat;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Information Technology Services Division for the cooperation it extended to the Working Group in the production of the booklet entitled "Internet services for delegates" and to the Government of Andorra for its initiative on the personal digital assistant pilot project;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to extend full cooperation to the Working Group and to give priority to implementing its recommendations;

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[226] E/2004/78.

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2005 on action taken to follow up the present resolution, including the findings of the Working Group and an assessment of its work and mandate.

50th plenary meeting
23 July 2004

2004/52
Long-term programme of support for Haiti

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1999/4 of 7 May 1999, in which the Council decided to create an Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti, and its subsequent resolutions 1999/11 of 27 July 1999, 2001/25 of 26 July 2001, 2002/22 of 24 July 2002 and 2003/46 of 23 July 2003, and its decisions 2000/235 of 27 July 2000 and 2001/290 of 24 July 2001, adopted with a view to the development of a long-term programme of support for Haiti,

Recalling also Security Council resolutions 1529 (2004) of 29 February 2004 and 1542 (2004) of 30 April 2004, in which the Security Council decided to establish the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti and supported the establishment of a core group to be chaired by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Haiti in order, inter alia, to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Stabilization Mission,

Recalling further paragraphs 13 and 14 of Security Council resolution 1542 (2004), in which the Secretary-General emphasized the need for Member States, United Nations organs, bodies and agencies and other international organizations to continue to contribute to the promotion of the social and economic development of Haiti, in particular over the long term, in order to achieve and sustain stability and combat poverty,

Taking note of the request made by the Transitional Government of Haiti to reactivate the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the long-term programme of support for Haiti;[227]

2. *Stresses* the need for renewed efforts at the local, national, regional and international levels to secure long-term support for Haiti, together with a sustained commitment at all levels to rebuild the economic and social structures of the country, combat poverty and build institutional capacity in support of the efforts of the Government and people of Haiti;

3. *Calls upon* the international community to provide substantial contributions to relief and assistance programmes carried out by the United Nations system and other relevant partners to improve the living conditions of the population in Haiti;

[227] E/2004/80.

4. *Underscores* the need for a long-term development strategy to promote socio-economic recovery and stability and ensure coherence and sustainability in international support for Haiti;

5. *Decides* to reactivate the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti established by its resolution 1999/4 and to consider the mandate and modalities of the Group at its resumed substantive session in 2004, in close consultation with the Transitional Government of Haiti and with the participation of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, based on the long-term national development needs and taking into account the need to avoid overlap and duplication with existing mechanisms;

6. *Also decides* to entrust the President of the Economic and Social Council with the task of holding consultations on the composition of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group, in consultation with all regional groups and the Transitional Government of Haiti, ensuring that it is limited, representative, at the ambassadorial level and drawn from the membership of the Council and its observer States, including representation from Haiti, taking into account the need to include countries that can make a positive contribution to the objectives of the Group, and with the task of making recommendations on the composition of the Group for a decision by the Council at its resumed substantive session in 2004.

50th plenary meeting
23 July 2004

2004/53
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

The Economic and Social Council,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General[228] and the report of the President of the Economic and Social Council containing the information submitted by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations on their activities with regard to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[229]

Having heard the statement by the representative of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960, the resolutions of the Special Committee and other relevant resolutions and decisions, including in particular Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/51 of 24 July 2003,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries

[228] A/59/64.
[229] E/2004/47.

and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Caribbean Community,

Conscious of the need to facilitate the implementation of the Declaration,

Welcoming the participation, in the capacity of observer, of those Non-Self-Governing Territories that are associate members of the regional commissions in world conferences in the economic and social sphere, subject to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions, including resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Special Committee on specific Territories,

Noting that only some specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system have been involved in providing assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Welcoming the assistance extended to Non-Self-Governing Territories by certain specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme,

Stressing that, because the development options of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories are limited, there are special challenges to planning for and implementing sustainable development and that those Territories will be constrained in meeting the challenges without the continued cooperation and assistance of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system,

Stressing also the importance of securing the necessary resources to fund expanded programmes of assistance for the peoples concerned and the need to enlist the support of all the major funding institutions within the United Nations system in that regard,

Reaffirming the mandate of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to take all appropriate measures, within their respective spheres of competence, to ensure the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions,

Expressing its appreciation to the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum, the Caribbean Community and other regional organizations for the continued cooperation and assistance they have extended to the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in this regard,

Expressing its conviction that closer contacts and consultations between and among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations help to facilitate the effective formulation of programmes of assistance for the peoples concerned,

Mindful of the imperative need to keep under continuous review the activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in the implementation of the various United Nations decisions relating to decolonization,

Bearing in mind the extremely fragile economies of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories and their vulnerability to natural disasters, such as hurricanes, cyclones and sea-level rise, and recalling the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 58/104 of 9 December 2003, entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations",

1. *Takes note* of the report of the President of the Economic and Social Council containing the information submitted by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations on their activities with regard to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[229] and endorses the observations and suggestions arising therefrom;

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[228]

3. *Recommends* that all States intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Declaration contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

4. *Reaffirms* that the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system should continue to be guided by the relevant resolutions of the United Nations in their efforts to contribute to the implementation of the Declaration and all other relevant General Assembly resolutions;

5. *Also reaffirms* that the recognition by the General Assembly, the Security Council and other United Nations organs of the legitimacy of the aspirations of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to exercise their right to self-determination entails, as a corollary, the extension of all appropriate assistance to those peoples;

6. *Expresses its appreciation* to those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have continued to cooperate with the United Nations and the regional and subregional organizations in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and requests all the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to implement the relevant provisions of those resolutions;

7. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations to examine and review conditions in each Territory so as to take appropriate measures to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of the Territories;

8. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and regional organizations to strengthen existing measures of support and formulate appropriate programmes of assistance to the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, within the framework of their respective mandates, in order to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of those Territories;

9. *Recommends* that the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system formulate, with the active cooperation of the regional organizations concerned, concrete proposals for the full

implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and submit the proposals to their governing and legislative organs;

10. *Also recommends* that the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system continue to review, at the regular meetings of their governing bodies, the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

11. *Welcomes* the continuing initiative exercised by the United Nations Development Programme in maintaining close liaison among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, including the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, and in providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

12. *Encourages* Non-Self-Governing Territories to take steps to establish and/or strengthen disaster preparedness and management institutions and policies;

13. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned to facilitate, when appropriate, the participation of appointed and elected representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the meetings and conferences of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions, including resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to specific Territories, so that the Territories may benefit from the related activities of those agencies and organizations;

14. *Recommends* that all Governments intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system of which they are members to accord priority to the question of providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

15. *Draws the attention* of the Special Committee to the present resolution and to the discussion held on the subject at the substantive session of 2004 of the Economic and Social Council;

16. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean of its resolution 574 (XXVII) of 16 May 1998[230] calling for the necessary mechanisms for its associate members, including small island Non-Self-Governing Territories, to participate in the special sessions of the General Assembly, subject to the rules of procedure of the Assembly, to review and assess the implementation of the plans of action of those United Nations world conferences in which the Territories originally participated in the capacity of observer, and in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies;

17. *Requests* the President of the Council to continue to maintain close contact on these matters with the Chairman of the Special Committee and to report thereon to the Council;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to follow the implementation of the present resolution, paying particular attention to cooperation and integration

[230] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 21* (E/1998/41), chap. III, sect. G.

arrangements for maximizing the efficiency of the assistance activities undertaken by various organizations of the United Nations system, and to report thereon to the Council at its substantive session of 2005;

19. *Decides* to keep these questions under continuous review.

50th plenary meeting
23 July 2004

2004/54
Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 58/229 of 23 December 2003,

Also recalling its resolution 2003/59 of 24 July 2003,

Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, and recalling relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973, 446 (1979) of 22 March 1979, 452 (1979) of 20 July 1979, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980, 476 (1980) of 30 June 1980, 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980, 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981, 904 (1994) of 18 March 1994, 1073 (1996) of 28 September 1996, 1397 (2002) of 12 March 2002, 1515 (2003) of 19 November 2003 and 1544 (2004) of 19 May 2004,

Recalling the resolutions of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, including resolutions ES-10/13 of 21 October 2003, ES-10/14 of 8 December 2003 and ES-10/16 of 20 July 2004,

Recffirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[231] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Stressing the importance of the revival of the Middle East peace process on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973), 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978, 1397 (2002), 1515 (2003) and 1544 (2004) and the principle of land for peace, as well as compliance with the agreements reached between the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,

Reaffirming the principle of the permanent sovereignty of peoples under foreign occupation over their natural resources,

Convinced that the Israeli occupation has gravely impeded the efforts to achieve sustainable development and a sound economic environment in the

[231] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan,

Gravely concerned about the deterioration of the economic and living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population of the occupied Syrian Golan and the exploitation by Israel, the occupying Power, of their natural resources,

Gravely concerned also by the grave impact on the economic and social conditions of the Palestinian people caused by the construction of the wall by Israel inside the Occupied Palestinian Territory and the resulting violation of their economic and social rights, including the rights to work, to health, to education and to an adequate standard of living,

Gravely concerned at the extensive destruction by Israel, the occupying Power, of agricultural land and orchards in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, during the recent period, including, and in particular, as a result of the construction of the wall,

Acknowledging the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*,[232]

Expressing grave concern about the continuation of the recent tragic and violent events since September 2000 that have led to many deaths and injuries,

Aware of the important work being done by the United Nations and the specialized agencies in support of the economic and social development of the Palestinian people, as well as the assistance being provided in the humanitarian field,

Conscious of the urgent need for the reconstruction and development of the economic and social infrastructure of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, as well as the urgent need to address the dire humanitarian crisis facing the Palestinian people,

Calling on both parties to fulfil their obligations under the road map[233] in cooperation with the quartet,

1. *Stresses* the need to preserve the national unity and the territorial integrity of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and to guarantee the freedom of movement of persons and goods in the Territory, including the removal of restrictions on going into and from East Jerusalem, and the freedom of movement to and from the outside world;

2. *Also stresses* the vital importance of the construction and operation of the seaport in Gaza and safe passage for the economic and social development of the Palestinian people;

3. *Demands* the complete cessation of all acts of violence, including all acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction;

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[232] See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

[233] S/2003/529, annex.

4. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to end its occupation of Palestinian cities, towns and other populated centres, to end the imposition of all forms of closure and curfew and to cease its destruction of homes and properties, economic institutions and agricultural fields;

5. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the Palestinian people and the Arab population of the occupied Syrian Golan to all their natural and economic resources, and calls upon Israel, the occupying Power, not to exploit, endanger or cause loss or depletion of these resources;

6. *Also reaffirms* that Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan are illegal and an obstacle to economic and social development;

7. *Stresses* the importance of the work of the organizations and agencies of the United Nations and of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority;

8. *Urges* Member States to encourage private foreign investment in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, in infrastructure, job-creation projects and social development in order to alleviate the hardship of the Palestinian people and improve their living conditions;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to continue to include in the report of the United Nations Special Coordinator an update on the living conditions of the Palestinian people, in collaboration with relevant United Nations agencies;

10. *Decides* to include the item entitled "Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan" in the agenda of its substantive session of 2005.

50th plenary meeting
23 July 2004

2004/55
Protection against products harmful to health and the environment

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 37/137 of 17 December 1982, 38/149 of 19 December 1983, 39/229 of 18 December 1984 and 44/226 of 22 December 1989, Assembly decisions 47/439 of 22 December 1992 and 50/431 of 20 December 1995, and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1998/41 of 30 July 1998 and 2001/33 of 26 July 2001,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on products harmful to health and the environment,[234] which contains a review[235] of the Consolidated List of Products Whose Consumption and/or Sale Have Been Banned, Withdrawn, Severely Restricted or Not Approved by Governments,[236]

Taking note of the fact that an increasing number of countries participate in the preparation of the Consolidated List,

Noting with satisfaction the continued close collaboration among the United Nations, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme in the preparation and dissemination of the Consolidated List,

Taking note of commitments made and targets established regarding environmentally sound management of chemicals in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[237] adopted by the Summit on 4 September 2002,

Noting the coming into force, in early 2004, of the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade[238] and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants,[239]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on products harmful to health and the environment[234] and notes the online availability[240] of the Consolidated List of Products Whose Consumption and/or Sale Have Been Banned, Withdrawn, Severely Restricted or Not Approved by Governments;[236]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* for the cooperation extended by Governments in the preparation of the Consolidated List, and urges all Governments, in particular those that have not yet done so, to provide the necessary information to relevant organizations for inclusion in future issues of the Consolidated List;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to update the electronic version of the Consolidated List, alternating between chemicals and pharmaceuticals every year, while printing only new data to complement previously printed issues for the benefit of those, particularly in developing countries, who may not have easy access to the electronic version;

4. *Urges* all Governments to participate fully in the process of developing a strategic approach to international chemicals management by 2005, in order to achieve the 2020 target of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, as set out in paragraph 23 of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[237] pursuant to

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[234] A/59/81-E/2004/63.

[235] Ibid., sect. II.

[236] United Nations publications, Sales Nos. E.03.IV.9 and E.04.IV.2. For previous issues of the Consolidated List, see United Nations publications, Sales Nos. E.84.IV.8, E.87.IV.1, E.91.IV.4, E.94.IV.3, E.97.IV.2, E.02.IV.3 and E.03.IV.3.

[237] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[238] Text available from http://www.pic.int/en/ViewPage.asp?id=104 (accessed 22 July 2004).

[239] Text available from http://www.pops.int/. (accessed 22 July 2004).

[240] Available from www.un.org/esa/coordination/ecosoc/Path:Publications (accessed 22 July 2004).

which chemicals would be used and produced in ways that lead to the minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment, using transparent science-based risk assessment procedures and science-based risk management procedures, taking into account the precautionary approach, as set out in principle 15 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[241] and support developing countries in strengthening their capacity for the sound management of chemicals and hazardous wastes by providing technical and financial assistance, and calls for a more coordinated use of existing international instruments in this field, taking into account the work undertaken by the United Nations system in this regard;

5. *Encourages* countries to implement the new Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals[242] as agreed in paragraph 23 (c) of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation as soon as possible, with a view to having the system fully operational by 2008;

6. *Urges* all Governments that have not yet done so to consider ratifying the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade[238] and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants[239] and to fully implement them;

7. *Invites* multilateral and bilateral agencies to continue to strengthen and coordinate their activities for improving the capacity-building of developing countries, particularly least developed countries, as well as countries with economies in transition, inter alia through technical assistance in the area of the sound management of hazardous chemicals and dangerous pharmaceutical products;

8. *Emphasizes* the need to continue to utilize the work being undertaken by relevant organizations of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations in this area, as well as that being carried out under international agreements and conventions in related areas, in updating the Consolidated List;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to report every three years, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 39/229 of 18 December 1984, on the implementation of the present resolution, taking into account previous Assembly resolutions on the same subject, as appropriate.

50th plenary meeting
23 July 2004

2004/56
Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women

The Economic and Social Council,

Having considered with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General on the situation of and assistance to Palestinian women,[243]

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[241] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[242] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.E.25.

[243] E/CN.6/2004/4.

Recalling the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,[244] in particular paragraph 260 concerning Palestinian women and children, the Beijing Platform for Action[245] adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[246]

Recalling also its resolution 2003/42 of 22 July 2003 and other relevant United Nations resolutions,

Recalling further the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women[247] as it concerns the protection of civilian populations,

Expressing the urgent need for the resumption of negotiations within the Middle East peace process on its agreed basis and towards the speedy achievement of a final settlement between the Palestinian and Israeli sides,

Concerned about the grave deterioration of the situation of Palestinian women in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and about the severe consequences of continuous illegal Israeli settlements activities as well as the harsh economic conditions and other severe consequences of the continuing Israeli attacks and sieges on Palestinian cities, towns, villages and refugee camps, which has resulted in the dire humanitarian crisis being faced by Palestinian women and their families,

Concerned also that the route marked out for the wall under construction by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, could prejudge future negotiations and make the two-State solution physically impossible to implement and would cause further humanitarian hardship to the Palestinians, in particular women and children,

Expressing its condemnation of all acts of violence, including all acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction, especially the excessive use of force against Palestinian civilians, many of them women and children, resulting in injury and loss of human life,

1. *Calls upon* the concerned parties, as well as the international community, to exert all the necessary efforts to ensure the immediate resumption of the peace process on its agreed basis, taking into account the common ground already gained, and calls for measures for tangible improvement of the difficult situation on the ground and the living conditions faced by Palestinian women and their families;

2. *Reaffirms* that the Israeli occupation remains a major obstacle for Palestinian women with regard to their advancement, self-reliance and integration in the development planning of their society;

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[244] *Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

[245] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[246] See General Assembly resolutions S-23/2 and S-23/3.

[247] See General Assembly resolution 48/104.

3. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply fully with the provisions and principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[248] the Regulations annexed to The Hague Convention IV of 18 October 1907[249] and the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949,[250] in order to protect the rights of Palestinian women and their families;

4. *Calls upon* Israel to facilitate the return of all refugees and displaced Palestinian women and children to their homes and properties, in compliance with the relevant United Nations resolutions;

5. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to provide urgently needed assistance and services in an effort to alleviate the dire humanitarian crisis being faced by Palestinian women and their families and to help in the reconstruction of relevant Palestinian institutions;

6. *Requests* the Commission on the Status of Women to continue to monitor and take action with regard to the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women,[244] in particular paragraph 260 concerning Palestinian women and children, the Beijing Platform for Action[245] and the outcome of the special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century";[246]

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to review the situation and to assist Palestinian women by all available means, including those laid out in his report entitled "Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women",[251] and to submit to the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-ninth session a report, including information provided by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

51st plenary meeting
23 July 2004

2004/57
Participation of non-governmental organizations in the forty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women

The Economic and Social Council,

Underlining the significance of the forty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, to be held in 2005, which will mark the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[252] the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the

[248] General Assembly resolution 212 A (III).

[249] See Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, *The Hague Conventions and Declarations of 1899 and 1907* (New York, Oxford University Press, 1915).

[250] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[251] E/CN.6/2004/4.

[252] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

Advancement of Women[253] and the thirtieth anniversary of the World Conference of the International Women's Year, held in Mexico City from 19 June to 2 July 1975,

Noting that the Commission on the Status of Women will undertake, at its forty-ninth session, a review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action[254] and the outcome documents of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[255] and will consider current challenges and forward-looking strategies for the advancement and empowerment of women and girls,

1. *Decides*, on an exceptional basis, to invite those non-governmental organizations that were accredited to the Fourth World Conference on Women or to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly to attend the forty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women;

2. *Urges* that, in recognition of the importance of equitable geographical participation of non-governmental organizations in the forty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, relevant United Nations bodies assist those non-governmental organizations that do not have resources, in particular non-governmental organizations from developing countries, including least developed countries and countries with economies in transition, to participate in the forty-ninth session of the Commission.

51st plenary meeting
23 July 2004

2004/58
Preparations for the forty-third session of the Commission for Social Development

The Economic and Social Council,

Underlining the significance of the forty-third session of the Commission for Social Development, which will mark the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development[256] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[257]

Noting that the Commission will undertake, at its forty-third session, a review of the implementation of the Copenhagen Programme of Action[257] and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,[258] entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", held in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000, which

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253 *Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

254 *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

255 Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

256 *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

257 Ibid., annex II.

258 General Assembly resolution S-24/2, annex.

constitute the basic framework for the promotion of social development for all at the national and international levels,

Building upon Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/7 of 22 July 1996 and also taking into account General Assembly resolutions 50/161 of 22 December 1995, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 and 58/291 of 6 May 2004,

Considering the special nature of the task before the Commission for Social Development at its forty-third session,

1. *Decides* to focus on the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development[256] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development[257] and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly[258] through the expanded use of interactive dialogue, and with broad-based participation of governmental delegations at the highest level of responsibility and expertise, and of civil society and organizations within the United Nations system, bearing in mind the need to integrate the social development perspective in the comprehensive review of the progress made in the fulfilment of all the commitments contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration;[259]

2. *Also decides* the Commission for Social Development at its forty-third session, should emphasize the sharing of experiences and good practices on overcoming challenges to the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly;

3. *Further decides* that the Commission for Social Development should convene, during its forty-third session, high-level plenary meetings, open to all States Members of the United Nations and observers, on the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, and requests the Chairman of the forty-third session of the Commission to transmit the outcome, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session, including to the high-level event of the Assembly on the review of the Millennium Declaration in 2005;

4. *Requests* the Bureau of the Commission for Social Development, in its preparations for the forty-third session of the Commission, to take into account the views expressed by representatives at the forty-second session of the Commission and to convene informal consultative meetings with the participation of all interested member States and observers, with a view to facilitating the work of the Commission at its forthcoming forty-third session.

51st plenary meeting
23 July 2004

[259] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

2004/59
Assessment of the ad hoc advisory groups of the Economic and Social Council on African countries emerging from conflict

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 55/217 of 21 December 2000 on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa, in which the Assembly requested the Economic and Social Council to consider creating ad hoc advisory groups on African countries emerging from conflict with a view to assessing their needs and elaborating a long-term programme of support that begins with the integration of relief into development,

Recalling also the ministerial declaration, adopted at the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council on 18 July 2001,[260] on the role of the United Nations in support of the efforts of African countries to achieve sustainable development, in which the importance of efforts for integrating peace and development was emphasized, and its resolution 2002/1 of 15 July 2002, in which the Council, having taken note of the report of the Secretary-General on this matter,[261] decided to consider creating, at the request of any African country emerging from conflict, an ad hoc advisory group,

Recalling further its decision 2002/304 of 25 October 2002 and its resolutions 2003/1 of 31 January 2003, 2003/53 of 24 July 2003 and 2004/1 of 3 May 2004 relating to the establishment and the work of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Guinea-Bissau,

Recalling its resolution 2003/16 of 21 July 2003, its decision 2003/311 of 22 August 2003 and its resolution 2004/2 of 3 May 2004 relating to the establishment and the work of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Burundi,

Recalling also its resolution 2003/50 of 24 July 2003, in which the Council reiterated the need to undertake an assessment of the lessons learned from the ad hoc advisory groups at its substantive session of 2004, and stressed the need to assess also progress made in the implementation of recommendations made by the ad hoc advisory groups,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the assessment of the ad hoc advisory groups on African countries emerging from conflict;[262]

2. *Recognizes* that the composition of the groups, in particular the participation of the countries concerned, which led to their strong ownership of the process, and the presence of African, other developing and donor countries as members, assisted in ensuring balanced positions and contributing to constructive outcomes;

3. *Commends* the ad hoc advisory groups for their innovative and constructive work in support of the countries concerned, in particular as it relates to:

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[260] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/56/3/Rev.1), chap. III, para. 29.

[261] E/2002/12 and Corr.1.

[262] E/2004/86.

(a) The open, transparent and participatory approach adopted by the ad hoc advisory groups and the broad consultations carried out at United Nations Headquarters, in the countries concerned and in other places, with a wide range of actors, including from civil society and the private sector;

(b) The promotion of a comprehensive approach to peace and development by recognizing the complexity and specificity of the situations in the countries concerned and contributing to the development of a framework within which longer-term development activities are planned;

(c) The promotion of an integrated approach to relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development, as a follow-up to the Council's agreed conclusions 1998/1, by, inter alia, linking short- and medium-term humanitarian assistance to the need for longer-term rehabilitation of communities;

(d) The close and fruitful collaboration engaged in with the United Nations system organizations, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, thus creating a constructive and mutually beneficial dynamic among the key players in support of the countries concerned;

(e) The advocacy role played by the ad hoc advisory groups for long-term international support to the countries concerned, particularly through their partnership approach aimed at establishing a shared understanding of the development challenges and providing recommendations towards concrete solutions, including a long-term development strategy, outlining the respective responsibilities of national authorities and international partners;

4. *Urges* the ad hoc advisory groups to take into account the following areas for enhancing the effectiveness of their work within their respective mandates:

(a) Fostering the creation of practical recommendations or strategic advice on how to make the transition from relief to development and increasing relationships with the United Nations Development Group/Executive Committee on Humanitarian Affairs working group on transition issues by exploring the complementary nature of their work;

(b) Entering into closer contacts and collaboration with regional and subregional organizations, such as the African Union, the regional economic communities and regional financial organizations, such as the African Development Bank, whose activities are key to the transition processes of the countries concerned;

(c) Continuing to strengthen their advice on how to ensure that the assistance of the international community in supporting the countries concerned is adequate, coherent, well-coordinated and effective and promotes synergy, including through exploring modalities to further mobilize additional resources, building on relevant mechanisms of coordination at the country level and at the international level;

(d) Ensuring the groups' early contribution to and participation in donor conferences on the countries concerned in order to maximize the impact of their advocacy work;

(e) Promoting a further increase in the interaction between the Economic and Social Council and the Security Council on the situation in the countries concerned, within their respective mandates;

5. *Invites* the Bretton Woods institutions to continue to cooperate with the ad hoc advisory groups and identify areas of convergence, in support of the post-conflict recovery phase that these countries are going through;

6. *Decides* to have a substantive debate on the reports of the ad hoc advisory groups as soon as it is appropriate;

7. *Stresses* the need to conclude the mandate of the ad hoc advisory groups, taking into account all aspects of the situation in each case, and decides to assess progress made towards that end on a semi-annual basis;

8. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the support provided to the ad hoc advisory groups, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure adequate human and technical resources, within existing resources, to provide substantive secretariat support while making maximum use of existing mechanisms and coordination structures, and to ensure the provision of financial resources to cover the operating costs in order to enable the groups to function in a smooth and optimal manner;

9. *Decides* to undertake a further assessment of lessons learned from the experience of the ad hoc advisory groups, including progress made in the implementation of their mandate, during its substantive session of 2006, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Economic and Social Council in this regard;

10. *Reaffirms* that each ad hoc advisory group should be specific to the situation prevailing in each country and that further decisions and resolutions should take into account the specific circumstances of any other African country emerging from conflict that requests the establishment of an ad hoc advisory group.

51st plenary meeting
23 July 2004

2004/60
Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Burundi

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 2002/1 of 15 July 2002, 2003/16 of 21 July 2003, 2003/50 of 24 July 2003 and 2004/2 of 3 May 2004, and its decision 2003/311 of 22 August 2003,

Welcoming the efforts of the African Mission in Burundi as an expression of ownership by the African Union and the establishment of the United Nations Operation in Burundi, in accordance with Security Council resolution 1545 (2004) of 21 May 2004,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Burundi;[263]

2. *Reiterates* the importance of maintaining the momentum in consolidating the peace process, calls on donor countries to follow up on the outcome of the

[263] E/2004/11.

Forum of Development Partners, held in Brussels on 13 and 14 January 2004, and encourages disbursement of funds announced during that meeting;

3. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Advisory Group to continue to follow closely the humanitarian situation and economic and social conditions, to examine the transition from relief to development in Burundi and the way in which the international community supports the process and to report, as appropriate, to the Economic and Social Council at its organizational session in 2005;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the United Nations Development Group, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and other relevant United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies to continue to assist the Ad Hoc Advisory Group in accomplishing its mandate, and invites the Bretton Woods institutions to continue to cooperate to that end.

51st plenary meeting
23 July 2004

2004/61
Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Guinea-Bissau

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 2002/1 of 15 July 2002, 2003/1 of 31 January 2003, 2003/53 of 24 July 2003, 2003/50 of 24 July 2003 and 2004/1 of 3 May 2004, and its decision 2002/304 of 25 October 2002,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the supplementary report of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Guinea-Bissau[264] and its recommendations;

2. *Welcomes* the interaction and cooperation that has taken place between the Economic and Social Council and the Security Council, within their respective mandates, on the situation in Guinea-Bissau;

3. *Welcomes also* the promising developments that have taken place with regard to the economic, social and political situation in Guinea-Bissau following the legislative elections in March 2004 as well as the reforms initiated by the Government to improve the management of public finances;

4. *Welcomes further* the recommitment of the Government of Guinea-Bissau to the partnership approach, endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2003/1 of 31 January 2003, calls on donor countries to support the development efforts of the Government of Guinea-Bissau, including through contributions to the Emergency Economic Management Fund, managed by the United Nations Development Programme, and urges the international community, in particular the donor countries, to increase their assistance to the country in meeting its short-term needs and to implement a long-term programme of support;

5. *Encourages* the Government of Guinea-Bissau to hold presidential elections by May 2005 and, in this regard, calls on the international community to support Guinea-Bissau in holding the elections in order to complete the second phase of the Transition Charter;

[264] E/2004/92, annex.

6. *Encourages* the International Monetary Fund to consider all possible forms of further support to Guinea-Bissau, and calls upon the donor community to participate in the round table being organized by the United Nations Development Programme, tentatively scheduled for November 2004, which would further the partnership approach;

7. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group until the organizational session of the Economic and Social Council in 2005, with the purpose of monitoring the implementation of its recommendations, following closely the humanitarian situation and the economic and social conditions unfolding in the country and reporting, as appropriate, to the Council and at its organizational session in 2005;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the United Nations Development Group, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs as well as the relevant United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies to continue to assist the Ad Hoc Advisory Group in accomplishing its mandate, and invites the Bretton Woods institutions to continue to cooperate to that end.

51st plenary meeting
23 July 2004

2004/62
Tobacco control

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting with profound concern the escalation in smoking and other forms of tobacco use worldwide,

Recognizing the adverse impact of tobacco consumption on public health, as well as its social, economic and environmental consequences, including for efforts towards poverty alleviation,

Acknowledging that tobacco control at all levels and particularly in developing countries and in countries with economies in transition requires financial and technical resources commensurate with the current and projected need for tobacco control activities,

Recognizing the need for strong political commitment, at all levels, for effective tobacco control, consistent with the provisions of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control,[265]

Mindful of the social and economic difficulties that tobacco control programmes may engender in the medium and long term in some developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and recognizing their need for technical and financial assistance in the context of nationally developed strategies for sustainable development,

Noting with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the United Nations Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Task Force on Tobacco Control,[265]

[265] E/2004/55.

Welcoming the adoption, by consensus, of the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control[266] by the fifty-sixth World Health Assembly,

Emphasizing the need for the expeditious entry into force of the Framework Convention and its effective implementation,

1. *Calls upon* Member States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the Convention at the earliest opportunity, with a view to bringing the Convention into force as soon as possible;

2. *Urges* Member States to strengthen tobacco control measures;

3. *Also calls upon* the relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and invites other relevant international organizations to continue to provide support for strengthening national and international tobacco control programmes;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the work of the Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Task Force on Tobacco Control to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2006.

51st plenary meeting
23 July 2004

2004/63
Promoting coordination and consolidation of the work of the functional commissions

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 50/227 of 24 May 1996 and 52/12 B of 19 December 1997, and resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, entitled "Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields",

Recalling also its agreed conclusions 2002/1 on strengthening further the role of the Economic and Social Council,[267]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the consolidated report of the Secretary-General on the work of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council in 2004;[268]

2. *Welcomes* the contribution of the functional commissions to the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council of 2004, and requests the functional commissions and other relevant subsidiary bodies to contribute to the substantive session of the Council in 2005 and, in accordance with the modalities to be set out by the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, to contribute, through the Council, to the high-level plenary meeting of the Assembly;

[266] World Health Assembly resolution WHA56.1, annex.
[267] See A/57/3 (Part II), chap. V.A.
[268] E/2004/81.

3. *Requests* its functional commissions, in their review of conference implementation in 2005, to promote complementarity in their work and to follow the guidance of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly;

4. *Also requests* its commissions, in their reports, to clearly identify the operational implications of their work for consideration and appropriate action by the governing bodies of the United Nations funds and programmes;

5. *Encourages* greater cooperation between its functional commissions and the regional commissions;

6. *Invites* its Bureau to give due regard in its consultations with the bureaux of the functional commissions to their contributions to the various segments of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council;

7. *Requests* the Chairpersons of the functional commissions to communicate to the President of the Economic and Social Council the issues requiring special attention or action by the Council, as determined by the commissions;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Economic and Social Council a consolidated report on the work of the functional commissions in 2005 focusing on the substantive aspects of their activities so as to complement the report on the role of the Council in the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 50/227, 52/12 B and 57/270 B.

51st plenary meeting
23 July 2004

Decisions

2004/201 E
Elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments to subsidiary and related bodies of the Economic and Social Council

At its 51st plenary meeting, on 23 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took the following action with regard to vacancies in its subsidiary and related bodies:

Elections

Commission for Social Development

The Council elected **Ukraine** for a four-year term beginning at the first meeting, in 2005, of the forty-fourth session of the Commission and expiring at the close of the forty-seventh session of the Commission in 2009.

Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

The Council elected Merike **Kokajev** (Estonia) for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2005.

Programme Coordination Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (UNAIDS)

The Council elected the **United States of America** for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2005.

The Council also elected **Andorra** for a term beginning on 1 August 2004 and expiring on 31 December 2004, to replace **Spain**, which had resigned its seat on the Board.

2004/230
Adoption of the agenda of the substantive session of 2004

At its 16th plenary meeting, on 28 June 2004, the Economic and Social Council adopted the agenda[269] of its substantive session of 2004 and approved the proposed programme of work of the session.[270]

At its 18th plenary meeting, on 29 June 2004, on the recommendation of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, the Council approved the requests made by non-governmental organizations to be heard by the Council at its substantive session of 2004.[271] At the same meeting, the Council also approved the request made by one additional non-governmental organization under item 4 (a), namely, Association for Democratic Initiatives (special consultative status 2003).

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[269] E/2004/100 and Corr.2.

[270] E/2004/L.7.

[271] See E/2004/84.

2004/231
Participation of intergovernmental organizations in the work of the Economic and Social Council

At its 16th plenary meeting, on 28 June 2004, the Economic and Social Council decided to grant observer status with the Council to the World Deserts Foundation, an intergovernmental organization.

2004/232
Documents considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with operational activities

At its 33rd plenary meeting, on 12 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of the following documents:

(a) *Under sub-item 3 (a)*

Report of the Secretary-General on comprehensive statistical data on operational activities for development for 2002 (document A/59/84-E/2004/53)

(b) *Under sub-item 3 (b)*

Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/ United Nations Population Fund on its work during 2003 (document E/2003/35);

Annual report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Children Fund to the Economic and Social Council (document E/2004/3-E/ICEF/2004/4);

Annual report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to the Economic and Social Council (document E/2004/4-DP/2004/12);

Annual report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund to the Economic and Social Council (document E/2004/5-DP/FPA/2004/2);

Annual report of the Executive Director of the World Food Programme for 2003 (document E/2004/14);

Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund on the work of its first regular session of 2004 (document E/2004/34 (Part I) and Add.1-E/ICEF/2004/7 (Part I) and Add.1);

Report of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme on its first, second and third regular sessions and annual session of 2003 (document E/2004/36);

Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and of the United Nations Population Fund on its first regular session of 2004 (document DP/2004/14);

Decisions adopted by the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and of the United Nations Population Fund at its annual session of 2004 (document DP/2004/33);

Extract from the report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund containing decisions adopted by the Board at its annual session of 2004 (document E/2004/L.11)

2004/233
United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Resources

At its 42nd plenary meeting, on 16 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council, recalling its decision 1997/226 of 18 July 1997, welcomed the endorsement by the Economic Commission for Europe of the United Nations Framework Classification for Fossil Energy and Mineral Resources and decided to invite the Member States of the United Nations, international organizations and the regional commissions to consider taking appropriate measures for ensuring worldwide application of the Framework Classification. The Council noted that that new classification for fossil energy and mineral resources, which now included energy commodities (for example, natural gas, oil and uranium), was an extension of the earlier framework developed for solid fuels and mineral commodities, on which the Council had taken similar action in 1997 upon endorsement and recommendation by the Economic Commission for Europe.

2004/234
Report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its twelfth session and provisional agenda for the thirteenth session of the Commission

At its 45th plenary meeting, on 20 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its twelfth session[272] and approved the provisional agenda for the thirteenth session of the Commission set out below.

Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Report of the intergovernmental preparatory meeting for the thirteenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development.[273]
4. Thematic cluster for the implementation cycle 2004-2005 (policy session):
   (a) Water;
   (b) Sanitation;
   (c) Human settlements.
5. Other matters.
6. Provisional agenda for the fourteenth session of the Commission.
7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirteenth session.

[272] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 9* (E/2004/29).
[273] To be held in New York from 28 February to 4 March 2005.

2004/235
Report of the United Nations Forum on Forests on its fourth session and provisional agenda for its fifth session

At its 45th plenary meeting, on 20 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council:

(a) Took note of the report of the United Nations Forum on Forests on its fourth session;[274]

(b) Approved the provisional agenda for the fifth session of the Forum as set out below.

Provisional agenda and documentation for the fifth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

   Documentation

   Provisional agenda and annotations

3. Status of the secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests.

   Documentation

   Note by the Secretariat

4. Review of progress and consideration of future actions.

   Documentation

   Report of the Secretary-General

5. Review of the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests, as referred to in paragraph 17 of Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/35.

   Documentation

   Report of the Secretary-General

6. On the basis of the assessment referred to in paragraph 2 (e) of Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/35, consideration of the parameters of a mandate for developing a legal framework on all types of forests with a view to recommending them to the Council and through it to the General Assembly.

   Documentation

   Report of the Secretary-General

   Report of the Ad Hoc Expert Group on Consideration with a View to Recommending the Parameters of a Mandate for Developing a Legal Framework on All Types of Forests

[274] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 22* and corrigendum (E/2004/42 and Corr.1).

7. Enhanced cooperation and policy and programme coordination.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat

Collaborative Partnership on Forests Framework, 2005

8. Multi-stakeholder dialogue.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat transmitting discussion papers submitted by major groups

9. High-level ministerial segment and policy dialogue with heads of organizations participating in the Collaborative Partnership on Forests.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

Note by the Secretariat on linkages between forests and the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration

10. Other matters.

11. Adoption of the report of the Forum on its fifth session.

2004/236
Report of the Statistical Commission on its thirty-fifth session and provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-sixth session of the Commission

At its 45th plenary meeting, on 20 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council:

(a) Took note of the report of the Statistical Commission on its thirty-fifth session;[275]

(b) Decided that the thirty-sixth session of the Commission should be held in New York from 1 to 4 March 2005;

(c) Approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-sixth session of the Commission as set out below.

Provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-sixth session of the Statistical Commission

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

Documentation

Provisional agenda and annotations

[275] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 4* (E/2004/24).

Note by the Secretariat on the organization of the work of the session

Note by the Secretariat on the state of preparation of documentation for the session

3. Demographic and social statistics:

(a) Social statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

(b) Health statistics;

Documentation

Report of the World Health Organization

(c) Poverty statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

(d) Washington Group on Disability Statistics.

Documentation

Report of the Washington Group on Disability Statistics

4. Economic statistics:

(a) National accounts;

Documentation

Report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts

(b) Energy statistics (programme review);

Documentation

Report of the programme reviewer

(c) Service statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

(d) Statistics of international trade in services;

Documentation

Report of the Task Force on Statistics of International Trade in Services

(e) International Comparison Programme;

Documentation

Report of the World Bank

(f) Ottawa Group on Price Indexes;

Documentation

Report of the Ottawa Group on Price Indexes

(g) Intersecretariat Working Group on Price Statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Price Statistics

(h) Delhi Group on Informal Sector Statistics.

Documentation

Report of the Delhi Group on Informal Sector Statistics

5. Natural resources and environment statistics:

Environment statistics and environmental accounting;

Documentation

Report of the Inter-agency Working Group on Environment Statistics

6. Activities not classified by field:

(a) International economic and social classifications;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

(b) Indicators;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

(c) Statistical capacity-building;

Documentation

Report of the Steering Committee of the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the Twenty-first Century (PARIS 21)

(d) Presentation of statistical data and metadata;

Documentation

Report of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

(e) Common open standards for the exchange and sharing of data and metadata;

Documentation

Report of the Task Force to establish standards on data and metadata exchange (SDMX)

(f) Information and communication technologies statistics;

Documentation

Report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

(g) Follow-up to Economic and Social Council policy decisions;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

(h) Coordination and integration of statistical programmes;

Documentation

Report of the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities

(i) Programme questions (United Nations Statistics Division).

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the work programme of the United Nations Statistics Division

7. Provisional agenda and dates for the thirty-seventh session of the Commission.

8. Report of the Commission on its thirty-sixth session.

2004/237
Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its thirty-seventh session and provisional agenda for the thirty-eighth session of the Commission

At its 45th plenary meeting, on 20 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council:

(a) Took note of the report of the Commission on Population and Development on its thirty-seventh session;[276]

(b) Approved the provisional agenda for the thirty-eighth session of the Commission as set out below:

Provisional agenda for the thirty-eighth session of the Commission

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

Documentation

Provisional agenda for the thirty-eighth session of the Commission

Note by the Secretariat on the organization of the work of the session

Report of the Bureau of the Commission on its intersessional meeting

3. Follow-up actions to the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on world population monitoring, focusing on population, development and HIV/AIDS, with particular emphasis on poverty

[276] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 5* (E/2004/25).

Report of the Secretary-General on the monitoring of population programmes focusing on population, development and HIV/AIDS, with particular emphasis on poverty

Report of the Secretary-General on the flow of financial resources for assisting in the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

4. Contribution of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, in all its aspects, to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the contribution of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, in all its aspects, to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration

5. General debate on national experience in population matters: population, development and HIV/AIDS, with particular emphasis on poverty.

6. Review of the methods of work of the Commission on Population and Development.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the working methods of the Commission on Population and Development

7. Programme implementation and future programme of work of the Secretariat in the field of population.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on world demographic trends

Report of the Secretary-General on programme implementation and progress of work in the field of population, 2004

8. Provisional agenda for the thirty-ninth session of the Commission.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat containing the draft provisional agenda for the thirty-ninth session of the Commission

9. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirty-eighth session.

10. Election of officers for the thirty-ninth session.

2004/238
Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

At its 46th plenary meeting, on 21 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council, recalling General Assembly resolution 1166 (XII) of 26 November 1957, in which the Assembly requested the Council to establish the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, as well as Assembly resolutions 1958 (XVIII) of 12 December 1963, 2294 (XXII) of 11 December 1967, 36/121 D of 10 December 1981, 42/130 of 7 December 1987, 45/138 of 14 December 1990, 48/115 of 20 December 1993, 49/171 of 23 December 1994, 50/228 of 7 June 1996, 51/72 of 12 December 1996, 54/143 of 17 December 1999, 55/72 of 4 December 2000, 56/133 of 19 December 2001, 57/185 of 18 December 2002 and 58/152 of 22 December 2003, in which the Assembly provided for subsequent increases in the membership of the Executive Committee:

(a) Took note of the requests to enlarge the membership of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees contained in the letter dated 23 March 2004 from the Permanent Representative of Romania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General[277] and the letter dated 2 June 2004 from the Permanent Representative of Ghana to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General;[278]

(b) Recommended that the General Assembly, at its fifty-ninth session, decide on the question of enlarging the membership of the Executive Committee from sixty-six to sixty-eight States.

2004/239
Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its forty-eighth session and provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-ninth session of the Commission

At its 47th plenary meeting, on 21 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its forty-eighth session[279] and approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-ninth session of the Commission set out below:

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

   Documentation

   Annotated provisional agenda and proposed organization of work

3. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century":

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[277] E/2004/49.

[278] E/2004/76.

[279] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 7* (E/2004/27).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of and assistance to Palestinian women

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of women and girls in Afghanistan

Report on the joint work plan of the Division for the Advancement of Women and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations Development Fund for Women on the activities of the Fund to eliminate violence against women

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the results of the thirty-second session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

(a) Review of gender mainstreaming in entities of the United Nations system;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on measures taken and progress achieved in the follow-up to and implementation of the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, with an assessment of progress made in mainstreaming a gender perspective within the United Nations system

(b) Emerging issues, trends and new approaches to issues affecting the situation of women or equality between women and men;

(c) Implementation of strategic objectives and action in critical areas of concern and further actions and initiatives:

(i) Review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century";

(ii) Current challenges and forward-looking strategies for the advancement and empowerment of women and girls.

Documentation

Review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" (thematic issue before the Commission)

Current challenges and forward-looking strategies for the advancement and empowerment of women and girls (thematic issue before the Commission)

Note by the Bureau of the Commission: discussion guide on the high-level round table of the Commission

4. Communications concerning the status of women.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the list of confidential communications concerning the status of women

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the list of non-confidential communications concerning the status of women

5. Follow-up to Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions.

Documentation

Letter from the President of the Economic and Social Council addressed to the Chairperson of the Commission on the Status of Women

Note by the Secretariat as an input to the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2005 of the Economic and Social Council

6. Provisional agenda for the fiftieth session of the Commission.

7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its forty-ninth session.

2004/240
Agreed conclusions of the Commission for Social Development on improving public sector effectiveness

At its 47th plenary meeting, on 21 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council, endorsed the following agreed conclusions adopted by the Commission for Social Development with respect to its priority theme at its forty-second session:

1. Governments have the primary responsibility for the provision of social services in order to enhance social development and contribute to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development[280] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[281] the outcome document adopted at the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,[282] entitled World Summit for Social Development and Beyond: Achieving Social Development for All in a Globalizing World, and the Millennium Declaration.[283] In this regard, national priorities and policies have the leading role in the development process. At the same time, national efforts need to be supported by an enabling international environment. The Commission emphasizes the crucial role of the public sector in, inter alia, the provision of equitable, adequate and accessible social services for all to meet the essential needs of the entire population, in particular those excluded from social services and those most in need. Governments should constantly strive to improve the public sector, taking into account the level of economic and social development of each country.

2. The Commission reiterates that sound social and economic development policies at the national and international levels should be part of the framework for

[280] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.
[281] Ibid., annex II.
[282] General Assembly resolution S-24/2, annex.
[283] General Assembly resolution 55/2.

the improvement of the effectiveness of the public sector. This requires long-term planning, well-defined priorities and coherent policies, effective implementation and capacity-building. Those policies should be formulated and implemented by Governments, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, and should be supported by the international community.

3. The Commission acknowledges that improvement of public sector effectiveness can be achieved through, inter alia, dialogue, partnership and cooperation at all levels. The Commission encourages Governments to strengthen the exchanges of experience and methods of effective delivery of public services. The United Nations system and international financial, trade and economic institutions and bilateral donors are invited to play an important role, through an integrated and coherent approach, in assisting Governments, in particular those of developing countries, least developed countries and countries with economies in transition, in this endeavour, specifically in exchanging and disseminating good practices and capacity-building activities aimed at improving public sector effectiveness.

4. The Commission acknowledges that developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, need to have a sufficient level of financial resources in order to provide social services commensurate with the needs of their citizens.

5. The Commission recognizes that a substantial increase in official development assistance and other resources will be required if developing countries are to achieve the internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration. In order to build support for official development assistance, heads of State and Government have pledged to further improve policies and development strategies, both nationally and internationally, to enhance aid effectiveness.

6. Achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, demands a new partnership between developed and developing countries. In this context, the Commission stresses the importance of the commitment recently made by heads of State and Government to achieving sound policies, good governance at all levels and the rule of law, as well as to mobilizing domestic resources, attracting international flows, promoting international trade as an engine for development, increasing international financial and technical cooperation for development, sustainable debt financing and external debt relief and enhancing the coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems.

7. Each country has the primary responsibility for its own economic and social development, within which the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized. In this context, the Commission reaffirms that international cooperation has an essential role in assisting developing countries, including the least developed countries, in the strengthening of their human, institutional and technological capacity and that the improvement of the effectiveness of the public sector is one of the conditions for social development requiring strengthened international cooperation.

8. The Commission stresses that in making recommendations on macroeconomic policies and implementing various programmes related to development and poverty eradication, the international financial institutions are

invited to take full account of the role and specificity of the public sector, notably public social services.

9. At the international level, the Commission has the primary responsibility in the follow-up to and review of the implementation of the commitments made at the World Summit for Social Development and the further initiatives agreed upon at the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly. In this regard, the Commission is a forum where countries can participate in an exchange of views and assessment of efforts, including through best practices aimed, inter alia, at promoting public sector effectiveness and seeking optimal ways of ensuring equitable delivery of social services in order to enhance social cohesion and accelerate social development.

10. The Commission recommends that, when making decisions about the allocation of public resources, Governments, with the contribution of relevant stakeholders, should consider the social development goals when developing or strengthening, inter alia, their national poverty eradication policies and strategies, taking into account that the financing of effective social services is an investment in economic growth and should be evaluated in the context of their impact on social development goals as well as on public expenditures and finances.

11. The Commission, while noting that economic hardship has in some cases led to reduced public social expenditures, recognizes that social and economic development policies and programmes should be complementary and that effective spending on strengthening public social services, including human capital development, social equity enhancement and social protection, contributes to long-term economic development and the development of society as a whole.

12. The Commission invites Governments to consider complementary and alternative approaches to the delivery of social services, including decentralization, privatization and public-private partnerships or, where appropriate, the introduction of competitive market-based structures. In general, social services can be delivered most effectively and efficiently by entities that are most appropriate and closest to local communities and are therefore more aware of their needs. While services can be provided by private entities, the fundamental objectives of those services and the ultimate responsibility of the State remain unchanged. The Commission reaffirms that any reform of public service delivery should aim at promoting and attaining the goals of universal and equitable access to those services by all, without discrimination, and at eradicating poverty and at the promotion and protection of all human rights, promoting full and productive employment and fostering social integration. In this regard, factors such as the rule of law, good governance, sound financial management at all levels, gender equality and strengthened international cooperation are important elements for success in meeting these objectives.

13. The Commission underlines that improvement of public sector effectiveness requires, inter alia, that all countries strive to eliminate corruption at all levels and welcomes the adoption by the General Assembly of the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

14. The Commission emphasizes the importance of dialogue and inclusive stakeholder participation, as appropriate, in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of social development policies, including policies on social services, to increase the efficiency, effectiveness, accessibility, affordability and flexibility of

such services, and the importance of the sense of ownership among all relevant stakeholders, including civil society, as well as entities that provide social services.

15. The Commission underscores the importance of the principles of transparency, accountability, integrity, efficiency and equality for improving the effectiveness of the public sector. In addition, the Commission considers that when Governments address the monitoring and evaluation of the delivery and impact of social services, equitable access to and quality of such services as well as the attainment of their initial objectives should be taken into account.

2004/241
Report of the Commission for Social Development on its forty-second session and provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-third session of the Commission

At its 47th plenary meeting, on 21 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council:

(a) Took note of the report of the Commission for Social Development on its forty-second session;[284]

(b) Approves the provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-third session of the Commission as set out below:

Provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-third session of the Commission

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters: review of methods of work of the Commission for Social Development.

   Documentation

   Report of the Secretary-General on review of the methods of work of the Commission for Social Development

3. Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly:

   (a) Priority theme: review of further implementation of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly;

   (b) Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups:

      (i) World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons;

      (ii) World Programme of Action for Youth;

      (iii) Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002;

[284] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 6* (E/2004/26).

(iv) Tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family and beyond.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the review of further implementation of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

Report of the Special Rapporteur on Disability of the Commission for Social Development on the monitoring of the implementation of the Standard Rules on Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities

World Youth Report 2005

Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing

4. Programme questions and other matters:

(a) Programme performance and implementation for the biennium 2002-2003;

(b) Proposed programme of work for the biennium 2006-2007;

(c) United Nations Research Institute for Social Development.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General on the draft programme of work of the Division for Social Policy and Development for the biennium 2006-2007

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

Note by the Secretary-General on nominations of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

5. Provisional agenda for the forty-fourth session of the Commission.

6. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its forty-third session.

2004/242
Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its thirteenth session and provisional agenda and documentation for its fourteenth session

At its 47th plenary meeting, on 21 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council:

(a) Took note of the report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its thirteenth session;[285]

(b) Decided that the prominent theme for the fourteenth session of the Commission should be "Conclusions and recommendations of the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice";

[285] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 10* (E/2004/30).

(c) Approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the fourteenth session, on the understanding that intersessional meetings would be held in Vienna, at no additional cost, to finalize the items to be included in the provisional agenda and the documentation requirements for the fourteenth session, as well as a shorter duration for the fourteenth session, on an exceptional and non-precedental basis.

Provisional agenda and documentation for the fourteenth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

A. Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.
4. Consideration of the conclusions and recommendations of the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.
5. Follow-up to the action plans for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century.
6. International cooperation in combating transnational crime.
7. Strengthening international cooperation and technical assistance in preventing and combating terrorism.
8. Use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice.
9. Strategic management and programme questions: programme questions.
10. Provisional agenda for the fifteenth session of the Commission.

B. Documentation

1. Election of officers.

   (Legislative authority: Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/31)

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.

   Documentation

   Provisional agenda, annotations and proposed organization of work

   (Legislative authority: rules 5 and 7 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and Council resolution 1992/1 and decision 1997/232)

3. Work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

   Documentation

   Report of the Executive Director on the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

(Legislative authority: General Assembly resolution 57/170 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1992/22, 1999/23 and 2004/... [E/CN.15/2004/L.20/Rev.1])

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of technical assistance projects in Africa by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

(Legislative authority: Economic and Social Council resolution 2004/... [E/CN.15/2004/L.16/Rev.1])

Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network

(Legislative authority: Economic and Social Council resolutions 1992/22, 1994/21 and 1999/23)

4. Consideration of the conclusions and recommendations of the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the conclusions and recommendations of the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

(Legislative authority: General Assembly resolutions 56/119, 57/170, 57/171, 58/138 and 59/... [E/CN.15/2004/L.3/Rev.1])

5. Follow-up to the action plans for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century.

6. International cooperation in combating transnational crime.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on international cooperation in combating transnational crime

(Legislative authority: General Assembly resolutions 57/168, 57/169 and 59/... [E/CN.15/2004/L.20/Rev.1])

Report on the meeting of the open-ended intergovernmental expert group to prepare a draft model bilateral agreement on sharing confiscated proceeds of crime covered by the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988

(Legislative authority: Economic and Social Council resolution 2004/... [E/CN.15/2004/L.2/Rev.1])

Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening international cooperation in preventing and combating trafficking in persons and protecting victims of such trafficking

(Legislative authority: General Assembly resolution 58/137)

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Convention against Corruption

(Legislative authority: General Assembly resolutions 40/243, 55/61, 56/186, 56/260, 57/169 and 59/... [E/CN.15/2004/L.12/Rev.1])

Report of the Secretary-General on illicit trafficking in protected species of wild flora and fauna

(Legislative authority: Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/27)

Report of the Secretary-General on progress made by the intergovernmental expert group convened to prepare a study on fraud, the criminal misuse and falsification of identity and related crimes

(Legislative authority: Economic and Social Council resolution 2004/... [E/CN.15/2004/L.6/Rev.1])

Note by the Secretariat on the study on the functioning of extradition and mutual legal assistance through existing mechanisms, including bilateral, regional and multilateral agreements or arrangements

(Legislative authority: General Assembly resolution 58/135)

7. Strengthening international cooperation and technical assistance in preventing and combating terrorism.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening international cooperation and technical assistance in promoting the implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism within the framework of the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

(Legislative authority: General Assembly resolutions 58/136 and 59/... [E/CN.15/2004/L.8/Rev.1])

8. Use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice

(Legislative authority: Economic and Social Council resolutions 1992/22 and 2003/30)

Report of the Secretary-General on action to promote effective crime prevention

(Legislative authority: Economic and Social Council resolution 2002/13)

Report of the Secretary-General on capital punishment and implementation of the safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty

(Legislative authority: Economic and Social Council resolutions 1745 (LIV), 1986/10, 1989/64, 1990/51 and 1995/57)

9. Strategic management and programme questions: programme questions.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to least developed countries to ensure their participation in the sessions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the sessions of conferences of States parties

(Legislative authority: General Assembly resolution 59/... [E/CN.15/2004/L.5/Rev.1])

Report on the intersessional work of the bureau of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, including on its experience with regard to the adherence of Member States to the procedural requirements for the submission of draft proposals

(Legislative authority: Economic and Social Council resolution 2003/31, para. 2)

Note by the Secretary-General on the proposed programme budget for the period 2006-2007

Note by the Secretary-General on the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005 and the proposed strategic framework for the period 2006-2009

10. Provisional agenda for the fifteenth session of the Commission.

(Legislative authority: rule 9 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and Council decisions 2002/238 and 2004/... [E/CN.15/2004/L.1/Add.8/Rev.1])

2004/243
Appointment of members of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute

At its 47th plenary meeting, on 21 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council decided to endorse the appointment, by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its thirteenth session, of Ann-Marie Begler (Sweden) and Elizabeth G. Verville (United States of America) to the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute.

2004/244
Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its forty-seventh session and provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-eighth session of the Commission

At its 47th plenary meeting, on 21 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its forty-seventh session[286] and approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-eighth session of the Commission set out below, on the understanding that intersessional meetings would be held at Vienna, at no additional cost, to finalize

[286] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 8* and corrigendum (E/2004/28 and Corr.1).

the items to be included in the provisional agenda and the documentation requirements for the forty-eighth session.

Provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-eighth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

Normative segment

3. Thematic debate on drug abuse prevention, treatment and rehabilitation:

   (a) Community capacity-building;

   (b) Preventing HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases in the context of drug abuse prevention.

4. Follow-up to the twentieth special session of the General Assembly: general overview and progress achieved by Governments in meeting the goals and targets for the year 2008 set out in the Political Declaration adopted by the Assembly at its twentieth special session.

5. Drug demand reduction:

   (a) Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction;

   (b) World situation with regard to drug abuse.

6. Illicit drug traffic and supply:

   (a) World situation with regard to drug trafficking and action taken by subsidiary bodies of the Commission;

   (b) Follow-up to the twentieth special session:

      (i) Measures to promote judicial cooperation (extradition, mutual legal assistance, controlled delivery, trafficking by sea and law enforcement cooperation, including training);

      (ii) Countering money-laundering;

      (iii) Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Crops and on Alternative Development.

7. Implementation of the international drug control treaties:

   (a) Changes in the scope of control of substances;

   (b) International Narcotics Control Board;

   (c) Follow-up to the twentieth special session of the General Assembly:

      (i) Measures to prevent the illicit manufacture, import, export, trafficking, distribution and diversion of precursors used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

      (ii) Action Plan against Illicit Manufacture, Trafficking and Abuse of Amphetamine-type Stimulants and Their Precursors;

(d) Other matters arising from the international drug control treaties.

Operational segment

8. Policy directives to the United Nations International Drug Control Programme.

9. Strengthening the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the role of the Commission as its governing body.

10. Administrative and budgetary questions.

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11. Provisional agenda for the forty-ninth session of the Commission.

12. Other business.

13. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its forty-eighth session.

2004/245
Report of the International Narcotics Control Board

At its 47th plenary meeting, on 21 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2003.[287]

2004/246
Regional cooperation

At its 46th and 48th meetings, on 21 and 22 July 2004, the Council decided to defer consideration of the following issues under agenda item 10:

(a) Action on draft resolution III recommended by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,[288] entitled "Implementation of resolutions concerning the participation of associate member countries of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean in the follow-up to United Nations world conferences and in the work of the Economic and Social Council";

(b) A draft resolution to be submitted under the item.

2004/247
Strengthening of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

At its 48th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/2 of 8 April 2004[289] and endorsed the Commission's recommendation that the Council and the

[287] *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2003* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.04.XI.1).

[288] E/2004/15/Add.2.

[289] See E/2004/23 (Part I), chap. II, sect. A.

General Assembly provide the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights with ways and means commensurate with its increasing tasks, as well as more resources for special rapporteurs.

2004/248
Use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination

At its 48th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/5[289] of 8 April 2004, and approved the decision of the Commission to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the use of mercenaries as a means of impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination for a period of three years.

The Council also approved the request to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to convene a third meeting of experts on traditional and new forms of mercenary activities as a means of impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination, whose main objectives will be:

(*a*) To give further consideration to the proposed new legal definition of a mercenary as contained in paragraph 47 of the report of the Special Rapporteur;[290]

(*b*) To make proposals on possible means of regulation and international supervision of the activities of private companies offering military assistance, consultancy and security services on the international market;

(*c*) To study and evaluate recent activities of mercenaries in Africa.

2004/249
The right to development

At its 48th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/7 of 13 April 2004[289] and approved the decision of the Commission to extend for one year the mandate of the Working Group on the Right to Development and to convene its sixth session before the sixty-first session of the Commission for a period of 10 working days; of those 10 working days, five should be allocated to the high-level task force established within the framework of the Working Group to hold its meetings and submit its findings and recommendations to the Working Group well in advance of its session; the Working Group in turn would meet for a period of five working days to consider the findings and recommendations of the task force and further initiatives in accordance with its mandate.

[290] E/CN.4/2004/15.

2004/250
Question of the violation of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine

At its 48th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/10 of 15 April 2004[289] and approved the Commission's request that the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967 investigate Israel's violations of the principles and bases of international law, international humanitarian law and the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949[291] and, in his capacity as a monitoring mechanism, follow up on the implementation of recommendations and report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session and to the Commission at its sixty-first session, until the end of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur, as established in Commission resolution 1993/2 A of 19 February 1993.

2004/251
Adverse effects of the illicit movement and dumping of toxic and dangerous products and wastes on the enjoyment of human rights

At its 48th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/17 of 16 April 2004[289] and endorsed the decision of the Commission to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the adverse effects of the illicit movement and dumping of toxic and dangerous products and wastes on the enjoyment of human rights for a further three years.

2004/252
The right to food

At its 48th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/19 of 16 April 2004[289] and approved the request to the Special Rapporteur on the right to food to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session and to report to the Commission at its sixty-first session on the implementation of resolution 2004/19.

2004/253
Human rights and extreme poverty

At its 48th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/23 of 16 April 2004[289] and approved the decision of the Commission to extend for a period of two years the mandate of the independent expert on the question of human rights and extreme poverty in accordance with Commission resolution 1998/25 of 17 April 1998, and the request that the independent expert report to the Commission at its sixty-first session.

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[291] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

2004/254
The right to education

At its 48th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/25 of 16 April 2004[289] and approved the decision of the Commission to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the right to education for a period of three years and the request that the Special Rapporteur report to the Commission at its sixty-first session.

The Council also approved the request to the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with all the assistance necessary for the execution of his or her mandate.

2004/255
The right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health

At its 48th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/27 of 16 April 2004[289] and approved the Commission's request to the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health to submit annually a report to the Commission and an interim report to the General Assembly on the activities performed under his mandate.

2004/256
Question of the realization in all countries of the economic, social and cultural rights contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and study of special problems which the developing countries face in their efforts to achieve these human rights

At its 48th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/29 of 19 April 2004[289] and approved the decision of the Commission to renew, for a period of two years, the mandate of the open-ended working group of the Commission with a view to considering options regarding the elaboration of an optional protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, pursuant to Commission resolution 2002/24 of 22 April 2002,[289] and authorized the working group to meet for 10 working days prior to the sixty-first and the sixty-second sessions of the Commission.

2004/257
The right to restitution, compensation and rehabilitation for victims of grave violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms

At its 48th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/34 of 19 April 2004[289] and approved the Commission's request to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to hold, with the cooperation of interested Governments, a third consultative meeting for all interested Member States, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council, using available resources, with a view to finalizing the "Basic principles and guidelines on the right to a remedy and reparation for victims of violations of international human rights and humanitarian law" and, if appropriate, to consider all options for the adoption of those principles and guidelines.

2004/258
Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance

At its 48th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/36 of 19 April 2004[289] and approved the decision of the Commission to extend, for three years, the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief and the Commission's request to the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session and to report to the Commission at its sixty-first session.

The Council also endorsed the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to ensure that the Special Rapporteur received the necessary resources to enable him to discharge his mandate fully.

2004/259
Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions

At its 48th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/37 of 19 April 2004[289] and endorsed the Commission's decision to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions for three years and approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with adequate human, financial and material resources in order to enable her or him to continue to carry out her or his mandate effectively.

2004/260
Enforced or involuntary disappearances

At its 48th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/40 of 19 April 2004[289] and approved the decision of the Commission to extend the mandate of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances for three years.

The Council also approved the Commission's request to the intersessional open-ended working group to elaborate a draft legally binding normative instrument for the protection of all persons from enforced disappearance to meet for a period of 15 working days in two formal sessions before the sixty-first session of the Commission, with one session of 10 working days and one session of five working days, the latter held from within existing resources, with a view to the prompt completion of its work, and to report to the Commission at its sixty-first session.

2004/261
Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

At its 48th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/41 of 19 April 2004[289] and endorsed the Commission's decision to extend for three years the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

2004/262
Human rights of migrants

At its 48th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/53 of 20 April 2004[289] and endorsed the Commission's request to the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants to submit a report on her activities to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session and to the Commission at its sixty-first session.

2004/263
Internally displaced persons

At its 48th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/55 of 20 April 2004[289] and endorsed the Commission's request to the Secretary-General, in effectively building upon the work of his Representative on internally displaced persons, to establish a mechanism that would address the complex problem of internal displacement, in particular by mainstreaming human rights of the internally displaced into all relevant parts of the United Nations system.

The Council also endorsed the request to the Secretary-General to ensure that the mechanism submitted annual reports on its activities to the Commission and to the General Assembly, making suggestions and recommendations regarding the

human rights of internally displaced persons and engaging in an interactive dialogue thereon.

2004/264
Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, and the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

At its 48th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/58 of 20 April 2004[289] and endorsed the Commission's recommendation that the Working Group be authorized to meet for five working days prior to the fifty-sixth session of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights.

2004/265
Working group of the Commission on Human Rights to elaborate a draft declaration in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 49/214 of 23 December 1994

At its 48th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/59 of 20 April 2004[289] and authorized the working group established in accordance with Commission resolution 1995/32 of 3 March 1995 to meet for a period of 10 working days prior to the sixty-first session of the Commission, the costs of the meeting to be met from within existing resources.

2004/266
Situation of human rights in Myanmar

At its 48th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/61 of 21 April 2004[289] and endorsed the Commission's decision to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, as contained in Commission resolution 1992/58 of 3 March 1992, for a further year, to request the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, to report to the Commission at its sixty-first session and to integrate a gender perspective throughout his work.

2004/267
Human rights and indigenous issues

At its 48th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/62 of 21 April 2004[289] and approved the decision of the Commission to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people for a further period of three years, and the request to the Special

Rapporteur to submit a report on his activities to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session and to the Commission at its sixty-first session.

The Council also endorsed the Commission's request to the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide all the necessary human, technical and financial assistance to the Special Rapporteur for the effective fulfilment of his mandate.

2004/268
Follow-up to the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education

At its 48th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/71[289] and decision 2004/121[292] of 21 April 2004 and endorsed the Commission's recommendation to the Council that at its substantive session of 2004 it recommend to the General Assembly that it proclaim at its fifty-ninth session a world programme for human rights education, to begin on 1 January 2005, structured in consecutive phases, in order to maintain and develop the implementation of human rights education programmes in all sectors.

The Council also endorsed the Commission's request to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to prepare, in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other relevant governmental and non-governmental actors, and submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session for consideration and adoption, a plan of action for the first phase (2005-2007) of the proposed world programme, focusing on the primary and secondary school systems.

2004/269
Composition of the staff of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

At its 48th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/73 of 21 April 2004[289] and drew the attention of the General Assembly to the resolution in the context of the consideration of the agenda item on human resources management.

The Council further endorsed the Commission's:

(*a*) Invitation to the General Assembly and its appropriate subsidiary bodies, inter alia, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Fifth Committee of the Assembly, to give due consideration to Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/73 and to the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Management review of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights", transmitted to the Assembly in a note by the Secretary-General,[293] in particular to any other organization, management, executive direction, structure, administrative,

[292] See E/2004/23 (Part I), chap. II, sect. B.
[293] A/59/65-E/2004/48 and Add.1.

financial and more technical human resources management issues and recommendations contained therein and not addressed in that resolution;

(*b*) Request to the Joint Inspection Unit to assist the Commission on Human Rights to monitor systematically the implementation of Commission resolution 2004/73 and to submit a follow-up comprehensive review of the implementation of the decisions of the Commission and other United Nations intergovernmental bodies regarding the management, programmes and administration of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in particular with regard to their impact on the recruitment policies and the composition of the staff, to the Commission at its sixty-third session and to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session, containing concrete proposals for corrective action, if required, for the implementation of the relevant intergovernmental bodies' resolutions, including Commission resolution 2004/73.

2004/270
Assistance to Somalia in the field of human rights

At its 48th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/80 of 21 April 2004[289] and approved the decision of the Commission to extend for a further year the mandate of the independent expert appointed by the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Somalia, and the Commission's request to the independent expert to report to the Commission at its sixty-first session.

The Council also approved the decision to request the Secretary-General to continue to provide the independent expert with all necessary assistance in carrying out his mandate.

2004/271
Assistance to Sierra Leone in the field of human rights

At its 48th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/86 of 21 April 2004[289] and endorsed the Commission's request to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session and to the Commission at its sixty-first session on assistance to Sierra Leone in the field of human rights, including with reference to the Human Rights Section of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone.

2004/272
World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

At its 48th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/88 of 22 April 2004[289] and endorsed the Commission's requests to the Secretary-General to provide

the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance with all the necessary human and financial assistance to carry out his mandate efficiently, effectively and expeditiously, and to enable him to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session and to the Commission at its sixty-first session.

2004/273
Decision relating to Paraguay under the procedure established in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1503 (XLVIII)

At its 49th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights decision 2004/103 of 31 March 2004[292] and endorsed the Commission's recommendation that the documentation relating to Paraguay which was examined by the Commission between 1978 and 1990 under Council resolution 1503 (XLVIII) of 27 May 1970 should no longer be considered confidential, in accordance with the request made by the Government of Paraguay.

2004/274
Corruption and its impact on the full enjoyment of human rights, in particular economic, social and cultural rights

At its 49th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights decision 2004/106 of 16 April 2004[292] and endorsed the Commission's:

(*a*) Decision to appoint Ms. Christy Mbonu as special rapporteur with the task of preparing a comprehensive study on corruption and its impact on the full enjoyment of human rights, in particular economic, social and cultural rights, based on her working paper[294] as well as the comments received and the useful discussions that took place at the fifty-fifth session of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights;

(*b*) Request to the Special Rapporteur to submit a preliminary report to the Subcommission at its fifty-sixth session, a progress report at its fifty-seventh session and a final report at its fifty-eighth session;

(*c*) Decision to endorse the request to the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with all the assistance necessary to enable her to accomplish her task.

[294] E/CN.4/Sub.2/2003/18.

2004/275
Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of human rights

At its 49th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights decision 2004/107 of 16 April 2004[292] and endorsed the Commission's request that the reports[295] of the Special Rapporteurs of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, on globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights be published in the official languages of the United Nations.

2004/276
Traditional practices affecting the health of women and the girl child

At its 49th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights decision 2004/111 of 20 April 2004[292] and endorsed the Commission's decision to renew the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on traditional practices affecting the health of women and the girl child for a further three years and its request to the Special Rapporteur to submit an updated report to the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights at its fifty-sixth session.

2004/277
Publishing the report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of non-citizens

At its 49th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council, recalling its decision 2000/283 of 28 July 2000,[292] authorizing a comprehensive study of the rights of non-citizens, and Commission on Human Rights decision 2000/104 of 25 April 2000,[296] decided that the updated and consolidated report on the rights of non-citizens should be published in all the official languages of the United Nations and given the widest possible distribution, in particular to Governments, specialized agencies, relevant bodies and agencies of the United Nations system (including the International Labour Organization, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, treaty bodies and the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants), regional intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations.

2004/278
Voluntary fund on minority-related activities

At its 49th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights decision 2004/114 of 20 April 2004[292] and endorsed the recommendation that a voluntary fund on minority-related

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[295] E/CN.4/Sub.2/2000/13, E/CN.4/Sub.2/2001/10 and E/CN.4/Sub.2/2003/14.

[296] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* (E/2000/23), chap. II, sect. B.

activities be established to facilitate the participation in the Working Group on Minorities — of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights — and its related activities, of minority representatives and experts from developing countries and for the organization of other activities relating to the implementation of the rights of persons belonging to minorities, with the members of the Working Group acting as a virtual decision-making board.

The Council also recommended to the General Assembly that it give favourable consideration to the establishment of a voluntary fund on minority-related activities.

2004/279
Responsibilities of transnational corporations and related business enterprises with regard to human rights

At its 49th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights decision 2004/116 of 20 April 2004[292] and

(*a*) Confirmed the importance and priority it accords to the question of the responsibilities of transnational corporations and related business enterprises with regard to human rights;

(*b*) Requested the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to compile a report setting out the scope and legal status of existing initiatives and standards relating to the responsibility of transnational corporations and related business enterprises with regard to human rights, inter alia the draft norms contained in Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights document E/CN.4/Sub.2/2003/12/Rev.2, and identifying outstanding issues, to consult with all relevant stakeholders in compiling the report, including States, transnational corporations, employers' and employees' associations, relevant international organizations and agencies, treaty monitoring bodies and non-governmental organizations, and to submit the report to the Commission at its sixty-first session in order for it to identify options for strengthening standards on the responsibilities of transnational corporations and related business enterprises with regard to human rights, and possible means of implementation;

(*c*) Affirmed that document E/CN.4/Sub.2/2003/12/Rev.2 had not been requested by the Commission and, as a draft proposal, had no legal standing, and that the Subcommission should not perform any monitoring function in that regard.

2004/280
Human rights and bioethics

At its 49th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights decision 2004/120 of 21 April 2004[292] and approved the Commission's decision to appoint Ms. Iulia-Antoanella Motoc special rapporteur to undertake a study on human rights and the human genome, based on her working paper;[297] the Special Rapporteur is requested to

[297] E/CN.4/Sub.2/2003/36.

submit her preliminary report to the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights at its fifty-sixth session and her final report to the Commission at its sixty-first session.

The Council also approved the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with the necessary assistance to enable her to carry out her study.

2004/281
The universal implementation of international human rights treaties

At its 49th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights decision 2004/123 of 21 April 2004[292] and approved the Commission's decision to appoint Mr. Emmanuel Decaux special rapporteur to conduct a detailed study of the universal implementation of international human rights treaties based on his working paper,[298] the comments made and the discussions that took place at the fifty-fifth session of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, and its decision to request the Special Rapporteur to submit a preliminary report to the Subcommission at its fifty-sixth session, an interim report at its fifty-seventh session and a final report at its fifty-eighth session.

The Council also endorsed the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with all the necessary assistance to enable him to carry out his mandate, inter alia in his contacts with States.

2004/282
Dates of the sixty-first session of the Commission on Human Rights

At its 49th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights decision 2004/125 of 21 April 2004[292] and endorsed the Commission's decision that the first meeting of the Commission would be held on the third Monday in January with the sole purpose of electing its officers, and that the sixty-first session of the Commission would be held from 14 March to 22 April 2005.

2004/283
Organization of work of the sixty-first session of the Commission on Human Rights

At its 49th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights decision 2004/127 of 23 April 2004[292] and authorized six fully serviced additional meetings, including summary records, in accordance with rules 29 and 31 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council, for the Commission's sixty-first session.

[298] E/CN.4/Sub.2/2003/37.

The Council, further, requested the Chairperson of the sixty-first session of the Commission to make every effort to organize the work of the session within the time normally allotted so that the additional meetings that the Council might authorize would be utilized only if they proved to be absolutely necessary.

2004/284
Technical cooperation in the field of human rights in Afghanistan

At its 49th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of statement of the Chairperson of the Commission on Human Rights of 21 April 2004 on technical cooperation in the field of human rights in Afghanistan, adopted by consensus at the sixtieth session of the Commission and endorsed the Commission's request to the Secretary-General to extend the mandate of the independent expert on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan for a further year, and the request to the independent expert to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session and to the Commission at its sixty-first session.

2004/285
Extension of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography

At its 49th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/48 of 20 April 2004[285] and decided to renew the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography for a further three years.

2004/286
Pre-sessional meeting of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

At its 49th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council decided to authorize, on an exceptional basis, a three-day pre-sessional meeting of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in 2005 to prepare for the fourth annual session of the Forum with the support of the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Issues.

2004/287
Workshop on free, prior and informed consent

At its 49th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council decided to authorize a technical three-day workshop on free, prior and informed consent, with the participation of representatives of the United Nations system and other interested intergovernmental organizations, experts from indigenous organizations, interested States and three members of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, and requested the workshop to report to the Forum at its fourth session, under the special theme of the session.

2004/288
Venue and dates for the fourth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

At its 49th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council decided that the fourth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues would be held at United Nations Headquarters in New York, from 16 to 27 May 2005.

2004/289
Provisional agenda for the fourth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

At its 49th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council approved the following provisional agenda and documentation for the fourth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues:

Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Special theme: Millennium Development Goals and indigenous peoples:
   (a) Goal 1 of the Millennium Development Goals: "Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger", to be addressed under the following thematic approach of combating poverty: good practices and barriers to implementation;
   (b) Goal 2 of the Millennium Development Goals: "Achieve universal primary education", to be addressed under the thematic approaches of language, cultural perspectives and traditional knowledge.

   Documentation

   Note by the Secretariat and other documentation to be submitted by the United Nations system
4. Ongoing priorities and themes:
   (a) Human rights, with special emphasis on an interactive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people;
   (b) Data collection and the desegregation of data on indigenous peoples;
   (c) Follow-up to previous special themes: "Indigenous children and youth" (2003) and "Indigenous women" (2004).

   Documentation

   Note by the Secretariat and other documentation to be submitted by the United Nations system
5. Future work of the Forum.

6. Draft agenda for the fifth session of the Forum.

7. Adoption of the report of the Forum on its fourth session.

2004/290
Proposal for a second international decade of the world's indigenous people

At its 49th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council decided to transmit to the General Assembly for its consideration the recommendation contained in draft decision V[299] of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues on the proclamation of a second international decade of the world's indigenous peoples, to begin in January 2005, and further recommended that, in its consideration, the General Assembly, inter alia:

(a) Identify goals for a second decade, taking into account the achievements of the first decade;

(b) Identify a coordinator that would coordinate the programme of activities of a second decade; and

(c) Address the question of human and financial resources to be made available in support of the activities undertaken in the framework of the decade, including the possible continuation of the Voluntary Fund established by General Assembly resolution 49/214 of 23 December 1994.

2004/291
Report of the third session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

At its 49th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the third session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues[300] and took note of the serious concerns and reservations on paragraph 52 contained in document E/2004/SR.48. The Economic and Social Council decided to transmit those concerns and reservations to the Permanent Forum and requested the Permanent Forum to take them into account in its work, in accordance with its mandate as contained in Council resolution 2000/22.

2004/292
Adoption of the theme and consultations on a multi-year work programme for the coordination segment of the Economic and Social Council

At its 50th plenary meeting, on 23 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council decided:

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[299] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 23* (E/2004/43), chap. I, sect. A.

[300] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 23* (E/2004/43).

(a) To adopt the following theme for the coordination segment of the Council in 2005:

> "Towards achieving internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration";

(b) To continue consultations on a multi-year work programme for the coordination segment of the Council, with a view to finalizing the programme before the beginning of the next substantive session.

2004/293
Document considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance

At its 50th plenary meeting, on 23 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Secretary-General on assistance to Mozambique.[301]

2004/294
Theme for the 2005 high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council

At its 50th plenary meeting, on 23 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council adopted the following theme for the high-level segment of its substantive session of 2005 and in this context underlined the importance of development issues and that the discussions on this theme would cover and should be within the mandate of the Council:

> "Achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, as well as implementing the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits: progress made, challenges and opportunities".

2004/295
Reports of coordination bodies and proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2006-2007

At its 50th plenary meeting, on 23 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council deferred consideration of the following sub-items under agenda item 7:

(a) Reports of coordination bodies (A/59/16, Supplement No. 16);

(b) Proposed strategic framework for the biennium 2006-2007 (A/59/6, relevant fascicles).

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[301] A/59/86-E/2004/69.

2004/296
Information and communication technologies for development

At its 50th plenary meeting, on 23 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council, taking note of the second annual report of the Information and Communication Technologies Task Force,[302]

(a) Welcomed the valuable contribution of the Task Force to harnessing the potential of information and communication technologies for advancing development, in particular its role in anchoring the agenda of the World Summit on the Information Society in the development goals of the Millennium Declaration,[303] and in supporting the follow-up to the first phase of the Summit, in Geneva, and the preparation of its second phase, in Tunis;

(b) Encouraged the Task Force to continue promoting information and communication technologies for development worldwide, including through contributing to the World Summit on the Information Society process.

2004/297
Document considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

At its 50th plenary meeting, on 23 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people.[304]

2004/298
Document considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan

At its 50th plenary meeting, on 23 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report prepared by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan.[305]

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[302] E/2004/62 and Corr.1.
[303] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.
[304] A/59/121-E/2004/88.
[305] A/59/89-E/2004/21.

2004/299
Report of the Committee for Development Policy

At its 50th plenary meeting, on 23 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council, recalling its resolution 2004/3 of 3 June 2004 on the report of the Committee for Development Policy:

(a) Took note of the progress achieved so far in the consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on formulating a smooth transition strategy for countries graduating from least developed country status[306] and of the report of the Committee for Development Policy on its sixth session;[307]

(b) Decided to revert to this matter at its resumed substantive session of 2004, building further on the elements for draft resolutions under agenda item 13 (a) contained in the annex to the present decision.

Annex

Elements for draft resolutions under agenda item 13 (a)

The Economic and Social Council will adopt simultaneously two different resolutions:

- One on the report of the Secretary-General on the formulation of a smooth transition strategy for countries graduating from least developed country status (E/2004/94)
- One on the report of the Committee for Development Policy on its sixth session (E/2004/33), including its recommendation to graduate the Maldives and Cape Verde

Elements for a draft resolution on a smooth transition strategy

1. Reconfirmation of general principles related to a smooth transition

2. Definition of the time sequence of a transition process, building on General Assembly resolution 46/206 of 20 December 1991 and subsequent resolutions of the Economic and Social Council:

- A first phase (I), of a three-year duration, beginning with the first identification of a country by the Committee for Development Policy and ending with the validation of the findings at the second review and the recommendation by the Committee to graduate the country
- A second phase (II), following the endorsement by the General Assembly of the recommendation by the Committee for Development Policy, lasting for a period of three years, during which the graduating country keeps its least developed country status and the advantages associated with it and activates, in a dialogue with its main partners at the country level, the preparations for the third phase, when it will have lost its least developed country status

[306] E/2004/94.

[307] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 13* (E/2004/33).

- A third phase (III), following the expiration of phase II, of an undetermined duration, during which the graduated country, in line with the strategy elaborated with its partners in phase II, phases out advantages associated with its earlier least developed country status

3. Definition of the mechanisms and content of the transition process, building on the recommendations in the report of the Secretary-General:

- Invite the graduating country to envisage action during phase I and initiate a process at the country level and, especially during phase II, build on the existing mechanism for coordination with donors
- Invite the partners of the graduating country (bilateral and multilateral) to engage in the elaboration in phase II and implementation in phase III of a country-specific transition strategy

4. Definition of a monitoring mechanism:

- Follow-up of the implementation of the smooth transition strategy at the country level during phase III under the overall responsibility of the Government
- Specific monitoring of the country, beginning at the end of phase II, during a series of triennial reviews by the Committee for Development Policy
- Invitation to the national Government to keep the Committee informed of evolution at the country level

5. Specific requests to the Secretary-General and United Nations agencies:

- The issue of the vulnerability profile in phase I
- Assistance through the resident coordinator system during phase II (convening a country-based mechanism; assisting the Government in the identification of critical areas, ...)

6. Recommendation to the General Assembly to endorse the resolution

Elements for a draft resolution on the report of the Committee for Development Policy

Take note of the report, including its recommendation to graduate the Maldives and Cape Verde.

2004/300
Human settlements

At its 50th plenary meeting, on 23 July 2004, *the Economic and Social Council*,

Recalling its relevant resolutions on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda,[308]

[308] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

1. *Took note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda;[309]

2. *Decided* to transmit the above report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly for consideration at its fifty-ninth session;

3. *Requested* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda for consideration by the Council at its substantive session of 2005.

2004/301
Documents considered by the Council in connection with economic and environmental questions

Under sub-item (b)

At its 51st meeting, on 23 July 2004, the Council took note of the note of the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union on the first phase and progress in the preparations for the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society (A/59/80-E/2004/61).

Under sub-item (e)

At its 50th meeting, on 23 July 2004, the Council took note of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its eighth special session.[310]

Under sub-item (j)

At its 50th meeting, on 23 July 2004, the Council took note of the note by the Secretary-General,[311] transmitting the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions.[312]

Under sub-item 13 (k)

At its 50th meeting, on 23 July 2004, the Council took note of the following documents:

(a) The report of the Secretary-General on the twenty-second session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names;[313]

(b) The report of the Secretary-General on the sixteenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific.[314]

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[309] E/2004/70.
[310] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 25* (E/2004/25).
[311] E/2004/72.
[312] A/58/346.
[313] E/2004/64.
[314] E/2004/57.

2004/302
Public administration and development

At its 50th meeting, on 23 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its third session[315] decided that the next session of the Committee should be devoted to the following items:

(a) Revitalizing public administration, including by improving transparency, competence and accountability: strategic directions for the future;

(b) Development of a methodology for a bottom-up participatory approach in identifying public administration foundations and principles;

(c) Enhancement of the celebration of United Nations Public Service Day and of the competition for United Nations Public Service Awards;

and also decided to discuss further the recommendations made in the report during the resumed substantive session of the Economic and Social Council.

2004/303
Recommendations made to the Council by the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names at its twenty-second session

At its 50th plenary meeting, on 23 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council, in view of the importance of the work of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names in supporting the United Nations Conferences on the Standardization of Geographical Names, and the essential contribution it continues to provide to Member States in the geographical information field and related cartographic areas:

(a) Endorsed the recommendation that the twenty-third session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names be held at the United Nations Office at Vienna for six working days, between March and May 2006, to facilitate and prepare the work of the Ninth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names;

(b) Requested the Secretary-General to take measures, as appropriate, to implement the recommendation contained in paragraph (a) above.

2004/304
Recommendations made by the Sixteenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific

At its 50th plenary meeting, on 23 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council, in view of the continued and important contributions made by cartography, geo-information technologies and spatial data infrastructure applications to decision makers, planners, scientists and the public at large and the essential contribution the

[315] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 44* (E/2004/44).

United Nations regional cartographic conferences for Asia and the Pacific and the Permanent Committee on Geographical Information Systems Infrastructure for Asia and the Pacific continue to provide to member States in the geographic information field:

(a) Endorsed its recommendation that the Seventeenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific be convened for five working days in 2006, with a primary focus on the continued and strengthened contribution of cartography and geographic information in support of the implementation of Agenda 21;[316]

(b) Requested the Secretary-General to take measures, where appropriate and within available resources, to implement the other recommendations made by the Sixteenth United Nations Regional Cartographic Conference for Asia and the Pacific. In particular, the United Nations should continue to support surveying, mapping and spatial data infrastructure activities in the Asian and Pacific region and, inter alia, continue, within available resources, to facilitate the participation of the least developed countries and the small island developing States of the region.

2004/305
Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations

At its 51st plenary meeting, on 23 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council decided:

(a) To grant consultative status to the following 114 non-governmental organizations:

Special consultative status

Academy of Mining Sciences

Action Canada for Population and Development

African Youth Network for Sustainable Development

Aging Research Center

Agricultural Missions Inc.

Airline Ambassadors International

Åland Islands Peace Institute

Alliance for Marriage

All India Shah Behram Baug Society (for Scientific and Educational Research)

Alulbayt Foundation

Arab Commission for Human Rights

[316] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.98.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

Association for Sustainable Community Development

Association tunisienne des femmes démocratiques

"Basta Ya" Citizen's Initiative

Bischofliches Hilfswerk Misereor (MISEREOR)

Catholic Medical Mission Board

Center for Victims of Torture

Centre beninois pour le développement des initiatives à la base

Centre for Human Rights and Peace Advocacy

CESVI

Citizens Movement for Environmental Justice

Child Rights Action Coalition

China Association for Science and Technology

China Care and Compassion Society

Chinese Society for Sustainable Development

Collectif des organisations des jeunes solidaires du Congo-Kinshasa

Comite de Apoyo a los Trabajadores Agricolas

Community and Family Services International

Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility

Congress of Aboriginal Peoples

Corporation of Opportunity and Joint Action

Droit à l'énergie — SOS Futur

DrugScope

EarthRights International

Earth Society Foundation

Eastern African Sub-Regional Support! Initiative for the Advancement of Women

ECPAT International

Federation of Balkan Turks and Association for Emigrees

Finnish Youth Co-operation Alliance

Foundation for Human Rights and Freedoms and Humanitarian Relief

Foundation for the Child and the Family

Front Line, the International Foundation for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders

Fundacion Cultural Baur

Geriatric Care Foundation of Pakistan

Global Foundation for Democracy and Development

Global Fund for Children

Goi Peace Foundation

Help Handicapped International

Indian Social Institute

India Vision Foundation

Indigenous Peoples Survival Foundation

Institute for Interreligious Intercultural Dialogue

Institute for Multicultural Communications Cooperation and Development, Inc.

Institute for the Development of Education, Arts and Leisure (IDEAL)

International Children's Dream Foundation

International Federation of Multimedia Associations

International School Psychology Association

Interreligious and International Federation for World Peace

Ittijah: Union of Arab Community Based Organizations

Ius Primi Viri International Association

Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice

Lawyers without Borders

Legal Advisory Office for Popular Organizations

Ligue Burundaise des droits de l'homme

Morality in Media, Inc.

National Coalition for Haitian Rights

National Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty

NGO Health Committee, Inc.

NRO-Frauenforum

Odhikar

One World International

Pan European Forest Council

People's Solidarity for Participatory Democracy

Planetary Association for Clean Energy, Inc.

Reach the Children, Inc.

Rehabilitation and Development Organization for the Landless

Relief International

Research Institute for Rehabilitation and Improvement for Women's Life

Réseau Malien des journalistes pour la lutte contre la corruption et la pauvreté

Saratoga Foundation

Shinji Shumeikai

Sister to Sister International, Inc.

Society for the Protection of the Rights of the Child

Thailand Environment Institute

Turtle Island Restoration Network

Universal Networking Digital Language Foundation

Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund

Vivat International

Volontari nel Mondo

War Veterans Committee

Women's Consortium of Nigeria

Women's Solidarity Association of Iran

Won-Buddhism Women's Association

World Organization for Education, Science and Development

World Vision Canada

World Youth Alliance

World Youth Foundation

Roster

Accademia Internazionale di Arte Moderna

Alliance Toward Harnessing Global Opportunities Corporation

Bird Life International

Citizens Alliance for Consumer Protection of Korea

Confederation of European Paper Industries

Dar Al Insan Association

FIA Foundation for the Automobile and Society

Fondation Bertarelli

Institute for Traffic Care

International Association of Safety Professionals

International Electric Research Exchange

International Network of Street Papers

Mulchand and Parpati Thandhani Foundation

Planned Parenthood of Korea

StarSpirit International, Inc.

World Self-Medication Association

World Trade Point Federation

(b) To reclassify the following three non-governmental organizations from special consultative status to general consultative status:

World Alliance for Citizen Participation (CIVICUS)

Foundation for the Social Promotion of Culture (FPSC)

World Movement of Mothers

(c) To reclassify the following four non-governmental organizations from the roster to special consultative status:

International Police Association

International Youth Hostel Federation

Life Institute

Minority Rights Group International

(d) To note that the Committee took note of the quadrennial reports of the following 42 organizations (years of reporting indicated in parentheses):

Association Internationale des Mouvements Familiaux de Formation Rurale (1998-2001)

Association for Progressive Communications (APC) (1995-1998)

Australian Catholic Social Justice Council (1997-2000)

Canadian Council of Churches (1997-2000)

Canadian Voice of Women for Peace (1997-2000)

Charitable Society for Social Welfare (2000-2003)

Colombian Commission of Jurists (1999-2002)

Conscience and Peace Tax International (1999-2002)

Development Alternatives With Women for a New Era (1999-2002)

Enfants du monde — Droits de l'homme (1997-2000)

European Law Students' Association (1997-2000)

Family Planning Association of Turkey (1999-2002)

Handicap International (1999-2002)

Human Rights Watch (1997-2000)

Institute for Policy Studies (1997-2000)

Interfaith International (1998-2001)

International Association of Penal Law (2000-2003)

International Federation on Ageing (1999-2002)

International Federation Terre des Hommes (1999-2002)

International Islamic Relief Organization (1995-1998)

International League for Human Rights (1998-2001)

International Union of Economists (1999-2002)

Médecins sans Frontières (2000-2003)

National Council of Negro Women, Inc. (1999-2002)

National Women's Council of Catalonia (1999-2002)

New Human Rights (1995-1998)

Organization for the Solidarity of the Peoples of Asia, Africa and Latin America (1998-2001)

Peace Action (1999-2002)

Service and Research Foundation of Asia on Family and Culture (1999-2002)

Society For the Psychological Study of Social Issues, The (1999-2002)

Society for Threatened Peoples (1994-1997)

South Asia Human Rights Documentation Centre (1999-2002)

Swedish Association for Sexuality Education (1999-2002)

Vrouwen Alliantie (1999-2002)

Widows' Rights International (1999-2002)

World Association of Former United Nations Interns and Fellows (1997-2000)

World Human Dimension (2000-2003)

World Movement of Mothers (1997-2000)

World Muslim Congress (1998-2001)

World Organization against Torture (1998-2001)

World Society for the Protection of Animals (1999-2002)

World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations (1999-2002)

(e) To note that the Committee closed consideration of the request for consultative status made by the following three organizations:

Asian Bankers Association

African Hebrew Organization

Federation of Ijaw Communities

(f) To note that the Committee decided not to grant the request for consultative status made by the following four organizations:

Alliance Vietnam Liberté

Conscience Africaine — African Network of Grassroots Network

International Association Promoting Human Rights

Thirty-First December Women's Movement

(g) To note that the Committee closed the case of a complaint submitted by a Member State against the Simon Wiesenthal Center.

2004/306
Suspension of consultative status

At its 51st plenary meeting, on 23 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council decided to suspend the consultative status of Indian Movement "Tupaj Amaru" for one year.

2004/307
Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its 2004 regular session

At its 51st plenary meeting, on 23 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its 2004 regular session.[317]

2004/308
Dates of the 2005 session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations and provisional agenda

At its 51st plenary meeting, on 23 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council decided to defer action on the draft decision until a resumed session of the Council.

2004/309
Preparations for the forty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women

At its 51st plenary meeting, on 23 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of resolution 48/5 of the Commission on the Status of Women on preparations for the forty-ninth session of the Commission[318] and decided that the Commission, at its forty-ninth session, should convene a high-level plenary meeting, open to the participation of all United Nations Member States and Observers, on the implementation of the Beijing Declaration[319] and Platform for

[317] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 12* (E/2004/32).

[318] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 7* (E/2004/27), chap. I, sect. C.

[319] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

Action[320] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly[321] and requests the Chairperson of the forty-ninth session of the Commission to transmit its outcome, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session, including to the high-level event of the General Assembly on the review of the Millennium Declaration.

2004/310
Implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits

At its 51st plenary meeting, on 23 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council decided to defer consideration of the draft resolutions under item 6, sub-items:

(a) Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development (A/59/92-E/2004/73 and Add.1 and 2 and E/2004/L.47) and

(b) Review and coordination of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010 (A/59/94-E/2004/77 and E/2004/L.39)

to its resumed substantive session, to be held in September 2004.

2004/311
Annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2003

At its 51st plenary meeting, on 23 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of the annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2003,[322] and

(a) Welcomed the progress in the work of the Chief Executives Board, as reflected in its annual overview report for 2003, particularly as it related to harnessing the activities of the system in support of the integrated follow-up to conferences and the Millennium Declaration, and expressed appreciation for the inclusion in the overview report of information on the first regular session of the Chief Executives Board in 2004;

(b) Looked forward to further strengthening its dialogue with members of the Chief Executives Board on all relevant aspects of the work of the system and its effective coordination in the light of the annual reports of the Chief Executives Board, in the context of the Council's coordination segment.

[320] Ibid., annex II.
[321] General Assembly resolution S-23/2, annex and resolution S-23/3, annex.
[322] E/2004/67.

2004/312
Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States

At its 51st plenary meeting, on 23 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council decided to defer consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States[323] to a resumed session.

2004/313
Promoting the application of science and technology to meet the development goals contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration

At its 51st meeting, on 23 July 2004, the Council decided to defer consideration of the draft resolution entitled "Promoting the application of science and technology to meet the development goals contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration", contained in the report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its seventh session[324] to a resumed session.

2004/314
Contribution of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council

At its 51st plenary meeting, on 23 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note, during its consideration at its high-level segment of the theme "Resources mobilization and enabling environment for poverty eradication in the context of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010", of the contribution of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on this topic, which was addressed by the Commission at its seventh session, in 2004, under the substantive theme "Promoting the application of science and technology to meet the development goals contained in the Millennium Declaration", and encouraged all stakeholders to consider the recommendations thereon contained in the report of the Commission on its seventh session.[324]

2004/315
Report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its seventh session and provisional agenda and documentation for the eighth session of the Commission

At its 51st plenary meeting, on 23 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council:

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[323] A/59/99-E/2004/83.

[324] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 11* (E/2004/31).

(a) Took note of the report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its seventh session;[324]

(b) Approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the eighth session of the Commission as set out below.

Provisional agenda and documentation for the eighth session of the Commission

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
2. Substantive theme: "Science and technology promotion, advice and application for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration".

   Documentation

   Report of the Secretary-General
3. Note on implementation of and progress made on decisions taken at the seventh session of the Commission.

   Documentation

   Note by the Secretariat
4. National country reports.
5. Contribution of international organizations to the work of the Commission.
6. Methods of work of the Commission.
7. Election of the Chairperson and other officers for the ninth session of the Commission.
8. Provisional agenda and documentation for the ninth session of the Commission.
9. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its eighth session.

2004/316
International cooperation in tax matters

At its 51st meeting, on 23 July 2004, the Council decided to defer consideration of sub-item 13 (k) to its resumed session.

2004/317
Documents considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with social and human rights questions

At its 50th and 51st meetings, on 23 July 2004, the Economic and Social Council took note of the following documents:

Under sub-item 14 (a)

Report of the Secretary-General on the review and appraisal of the system-wide implementation of the Council's agreed conclusions 1997/2 on mainstreaming

a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system.[325]

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director of the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women on the revitalization and strengthening of the Institute.[326]

Report of the Secretary-General on the review and appraisal of the system-wide implementation of the Council's agreed conclusions 1997/2 on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system.[327]

Under sub-item 14 (e)

Oral report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on coordination aspects of the work of the Office and on assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa.

Under sub-item 14 (g)

Report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its thirtieth and thirty-first sessions.[328]

Report of the Commission on Human Rights on its sixtieth session.[329]

Note by the Secretary-General submitting General Comments 29, 30 and 31 of the Human Rights Committee.[330]

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.[331]

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on the management review of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.[332]

Comments of the Secretary-General on the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit in its report on the management and administration of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.[333]

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[325] E/2004/59.
[326] E/2004/66.
[327] E/2004/59.
[328] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 2* (E/2004/22).
[329] To be issued as *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 3* (E/2004/23 (Part I)).
[330] E/2004/87.
[331] E/2004/89.
[332] A/59/65-E/2004/48.
[333] A/59/65/Add.1-E/2004/48/Add.1.

Under sub-item 14 (h)

Report of the Secretary-General on the preliminary review by the Coordinator of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People on the activities of the United Nations system in relation to the Decade.[334]

Report of the Secretary-General submitting information concerning indigenous issues requested by the Economic and Social Council.[335]

Under sub-item 14 (i)

Report of the Secretary-General containing further information and comments received from Governments and relevant international organizations and functional commissions pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/39.[336]

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[334] E/2004/82.
[335] E/2004/85.
[336] E/2004/56.